

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains and Salt in the Head-quarters

Number.		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN															
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU (Sorghum Vulgare).			
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
BENGAL—concluded.		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	24	Tippera	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	13 0	14 9	14 9	20 0	...	...	...
	25	Noakhali	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...
	26	Chittagong	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 4	10 8	11 0	15 4	15 8	13 0	...	...	...
BIHAR.																		
PATNA DIVISION.	27	Patna	15 0	13 0	16 8	18 8	19 8	27 0	14 0	15 0	13 0	17 8	16 8	18 0	...	15 8	...	
	28	Gaya	13 0	12 8	16 0	18 8	17 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	9 4	15 0	13 8	16 0	18 8	16 0	16 0	
	29	Shahabad	12 8	12 8	15 12	16 8	16 0	24 0	8 0	8 0	8 8	13 8	14 0	15 4	...	...	...
	30	Saran	12 0	11 8	16 0	15 0	15 8	23 0	10 0	9 8	8 0	12 0	12 8	16 0	...	...	...
	31	Champaran	13 0	12 8	16 0	17 8	16 8	21 0	7 4	7 0	6 8	14 8	14 8	15 0	...	...	...
	32	Munaffarpur	14 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	25 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	13 2	12 0	13 0	...	...	...
33	Darbhanga	12 0	12 0	13 0	16 0	14 0	18 8	8 0	7 0	10 8	12 0	11 0	13 0	...	...	...
SHAHALPUR DIVISION.	34	Monghyr	14 2	12 10	16 0	16 12	17 11	18 0	9 15	10 8	10 0	12 1	11 14	14 0	...	...	...
	35	Bhagalpur	13 4	12 12	16 8	20 4	16 8	25 4	11 5	10 12	12 10	15 2	14 0	17 12	...	...	...
	36	Purnea (Kasba)	15 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 0	12 0	16 0	15 0	20 0	...	...	...
	37	Malda (English Bazar).	14 0	...	18 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...
	38	Sonthal Parganas.	11 0	10 0	12 0	19 0	19 0	22 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	14 0	13 0	18 0	...	...	...
ORISSA.																		
ORISSA DIVISION.	39	Cuttack	...	9 14	11 13	...	...	...	10 8	9 8	...	14 7	15 2	...	...	...	...
	40	Balasore	13 0	13 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...
	41	Puri	9 8	8 12	10 0	...	...	...	9 8	8 8	8 6	14 7	13 2	17 2	...	...	...
CHOTA NAGPUR.																		
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.	42	Hasaribagh	11 0	10 12	13 0	16 0	16 0	22 8	6 8	8 0	8 0	New. 13 0 (13 0) Old. 11 8 (11 8)		17 0	...	...	...
	43	Ranchi	7 8 to 11 8	7 0 to 10 0	6 4 to 12 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	7 8	7 8	9 0	11 0	10 8	19 0	...	...	...
	44	Palamau	11 13	10 11	15 12	16 14	15 12	30 6	10 2	9 9	15 8	11 13	10 11	19 13	...	...	...
	45	Manbhum	10 0	10 0	13 0	...	16 0	16 0	9 8	10 0	11 8	New 14 0 Old 11 0		13 8	23 0
	46	Singhbhum	12 0	12 0	8 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	16 0	14 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...

* Present return not received.

- U. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Brahmanbaria 10 seers ; Chandpur 9 seers.
V. At Feni Hat the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
W. At Cox's Bazar the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.
W1. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Bihar 10 seers ; Barh 10½ seers ; Dinapore 10 seers.
X. At Nawada the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
Y. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Buxar 11 seers ; Bhabua 10 seers ; Sasaram 10½ seers.
Z. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Siwan return not received ; Gopalganj (Mirganj) 12 seers 10 chittacks.
a. At Bettiah the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
b. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Hajipur 10 seers ; Sitamarhi 9½ seers.
c. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Samastipur 10 seers ; Madhubani 9 seers 1 chittack.

MEERS OF 80 TOLARS

[illegible]

KANONI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Setaria Italica</i> .)						GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALAN OR SUNAGA (<i>Cleor arifianum</i> .)					
Present return.		Next preceding re- turn.		Corresponding re- turn of last year.		Present return.		Next preceding re- turn.		Corresponding re- turn of last year.	
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...
...	12	0	12	0	12	8
...	10	0	10	0	12	0
15	0	18	0	24	0	18	8	17	0	22	8
12	0	12	0	14	0	17	0	16	0	23	0
13	0	...	...	...	...	16	8	15	8	21	8
...	...	14	0	16	0	15	8	15	0	20	0
...	15	8	14	8	19	0
...	15	0	15	0	19	0
...	14	0	14	0	16	0
...	16	8	16	4	21	0
...	16	6	14	0	21	8
...	18	0	16	0	...	...
...	16	0	16	0	20	0
...	14	0	12	0	16	0
...	Biri or kalal. 16 12 16					
...	Biri or kalal. 16 0 16 0 14					
...	14	7	14	7	13	1
...	14	8	13	0	17	0
...	18	0	11	0	} 16	
...	14	0	2	0		
...	15	8	14	1	27	0
...	11	8	11	8	16	0
...	2	0	4	0	9	0

Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 15th November 1899—(concluded).

												WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.			DISTRICTS.	Numi er.
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE. (Zeamays.)			ARHAR OR THUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus indicus.)			SALT.			SALT.							
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.					
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.					
												BENGAL—concluded.			CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	
...	...	...	...	...	...	U 10 0	10 0	8 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	Tippera.	24
...	...	...	...	...	...	V 9 0	9 0	9 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Noakhali.	25
...	...	...	...	8 0	...	W 10 0	10 0	11 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	Chittagong.	26
												BIHAR.			PATNA DIVISION.	
18 0	15 8	31 0	12 0	13 0	...	W1 11 0	11 0	11 0	3 7 6	3 7 0	3 8 0	Patna.	27			
...	15 0	25 0	11 0	11 0	...	X 10 0	10 0	10 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 14 0	Gaya.	28			
14 0	14 0	22 0	...	12 0	...	Y 10 0	11 0	10 0	4 0 0	3 10 0	4 0 0	Shahabad.	29			
15 0	14 12	23 0	11 0	12 0	...	Z 11 0	11 0	10 8	3 12 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	Saran.	30			
16 12	16 8	24 0	10 8	10 8	12 4	a 10 8	10 8	10 0	3 13 0	3 13 0	4 0 0	Champanan.	31			
16 0	14 8	25 0	10 8	10 0	...	b 11 4	11 4	11 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 10 0	Muzaffarpur.	32			
15 8	15 0	25 0	13 8	13 0	...	c 10 0	10 8	10 0	4 0 0	3 13 0	4 0 0	Darbhanga.	33			
...	...	32 0	13 6	13 10	13 9	d 10 8	10 8	10 0	3 8 0	3 13 0	4 0 0	Monghyr.	34			
17 10	14 0	35 8	10 2	8 2	...	e 10 2	10 0	10 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 14 0	Bhagalpur	35			
...	...	...	9 0	11 0	...	f 10 8	10 8	10 8	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Purnea (Kasba).	36	
...	...	...	10 0	10 0	...	g 10 0	10 0	9 0	4 0 0	3 14 3	4 4 0	Malda (English Bazar).	37	
19 0	17 0	39 0	16 0	16 0	...	h 10 0	10 0	9 4	3 12 0	3 12 10	3 14 0	Sonthal Parganas.	38			
												ORISSA.			ORISSA DIVI- SION.	
...	...	...	15 12	19 11	...	i 10 12	10 12	10 12	...	3 0 0	3 2 0	Cuttack.	39	
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	j 11 8	11 8	11 8	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 9 0	Balasore.	40	
...	...	...	10 8	10 7	9 8	13 4	13 8	13 8	3 0 0	2 15 0	2 15 0	Puri.	41	
												CHOTA NAGPUR.			CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.	
15 0	15 0	21 0	13 4	9 0	...	9 8	9 0	9 0	4 3 0	4 3 0	4 4 0	Hasaribagh.	42			
...	...	26 0	8 0	6 8	10 0	9 8	9 13	9 0	4 2 0	4 1 0	4 2 0	Ranchi.	43			
14 1	13 8	31 8	11 4	9 9	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	Palaman.	44
17 0	18 0	...	9 0	9 8	...	k 10 8	10 0	10 0	3 11 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	Manbhum.	45			
20 0	20 0	...	10 0	11 0	10 0	7 0	7 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 4 0	Singbhum.	46			

- d. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Begusarai 11 seers; Jamui 10½ seers.
e. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Banka 10 seers; Madhipura 9½ seers. Supaul return not received.
f. In the Kishanganj and Araria subdivisions the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
g. At Ballia Nawabganj the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
h. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Dooghur 10½ seers (panga); Godda 10 seers; Jamtara 11 seers (crushed); Pakaur 11 seers; Rajmahal 11 seers (both panga and karkatch).
i. In the Jajpur and Kendrapara subdivisions the retail price of salt (panga) is 9 seers per rupee.
j. At Bhadrak the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
k. At Gobindpur the retail price of salt is 10 seers 10 chittacks per rupee.

Published for general information.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (wholesale) of Food-grains, Firewood, &c

Number.	MARKS.	RICE (BEST SORT).			COMMON RICE (meta chaul).			WHEAT (<i>Triticum sativum</i>).			BARLEY (<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>).		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
1	Calcutta	4 12 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 4 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	2 4 0
2	Burdwan	3 8 0	3 10 0	4 0 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	2 2 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	2 12 0	...	...	...
3	Midnapore	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 8 0	2 5 0	2 4 0 New. 1 14 0 to 2 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Patna	6 2 0	6 0 0	6 10 0	2 4 3	2 5 0	2 2 0	2 6 6	2 6 6	2 10 6	...	...	...
5	Rangpur	4 8 0	4 12 0	5 0 0	2 8 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	...	...	...
6	Dacca	3 11 0	3 12 0	3 4 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	2 0 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	2 14 0	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 8 0
7	Chittagong	3 12 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	2 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Patna	2 12 0	2 10 0	3 0 0	2 3 6	2 5 0	2 1 6	2 10 0	3 0 0	2 5 6	2 1 6	2 0 0	1 7 0
9	Mumfarspur	5 11 4	5 11 6	5 11 4	2 13 9	3 3 3	3 1 3	2 10 6	3 3 3	2 8 0	2 3 6	2 8 0	1 9 0
10	Bhagalpur	3 8 10	3 11 6	3 3 0	2 10 7	2 13 6	2 4 0	3 0 10	3 2 3	2 6 9	2 0 0	2 6 9	1 9 0
11	Cuttack*	...	3 6 6	3 12 9	...	2 8 6	2 5 6	...	3 14 0	3 3 0	...	...	...
12	Ranchi	6	5 6 6	4 7 0	3 10 3	3 13 0	2 1 6	3 7 6 to 5 6 6	4 0 0 to 5 11 0	3 5 0 to 6 2 0	2 13 3	2 13 3	2 8 0

* Present return not received.

CALCUTTA,
The 21st November 1899.

JUAR OR CHOLUM (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i>).			BAJRA OR CUMBU (<i>Pennisetum typhoides</i>).			MARUA OR RAGI (<i>Eleusine coracana</i>).			GRAM, CHANA, CHOLA, KADALAY, OR SUNAGA (<i>Cicer arietinum</i>).		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
	3 0 0	2 2 0	4 8 0	5 8 0	2 8 0	/	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	2 10 0
	3 2 0	3 1 0	2 8 0

	2 8 0	2 8 0	2 6 6
	3 4 0	3 8 0	2 4 0
	3 2 0	3 2 0	2 9 0
	3 12 0	4 0 0	3 0 0
	1 4 0	2 1 6	2 4 6	1 12 0
	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 9 6	2 8 0	2 8 0	2 1 7½
	2 7 6	2 13 9	1 13 9
	Biri or kalai.		
	2 5 6	2 5 6	
	{ 2 13 3 3 5 3 to to 3 1 0 3 10 0 }		

PRICES PER MAUND											
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (<i>Zea mays</i>).			ARHAR DAL OR THUR— CAJIAN PEA (<i>Cajanus indicus</i>).			LINSEED.			MUSTARD AND RAPESEED.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
3 0 0	3 4 0	1 12 0	4 0 0	4 4 0	3 0 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 0
...	...	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 2 0	...	...	...	4 3 0	4 3 0	3 8
...	...	...	...	...	...	4 10 0	5 2 0	4 0 0	Black mustard. 4 10 0 to 4 4 0 to 4 8 4 12 0 4 8 0		
...	...	...	3 15 0	3 15 0	3 2 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	3 8 0	Rapeseed. 3 6 0 3 4 0 3 10 3 12 0 3 12 0 4 0		
2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	3 12 0	3 12 0	4 0
...	...	...	3 12 0	4 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 12 0	4 12 0	...	...	...	...	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 0
2 2 6	2 8 0	1 4 0	3 0 0	3 4 0	...	4 0 0	3 14 0	3 4 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 8
2 5 6	2 10 6	1 9 6	3 10 0	3 18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 4 7	2 13 9	1 2 0	4 0 0	3 15 0	...	4 6 6	4 12 0	4 9 0	4 3 3	4 8 0	3 3
...	...	...	...	2 5 6	1 14 6	...	...	...	...	3 12 0	4 0
...	...	...	5 0 0	6 2 3	4 0 0	4 7 0	5 0 0	3 5 0	6 2 3	5 0 0 3 1 to to 6 2 3 3 10	

STANDARD SEERS.

TEA OR JINJILI SEED.			SUGAR (RAW).			COTTON, CLEANED.			JUTE.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
4 4 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	5 6 0	5 2 0	5 6 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 12 0
...	...	...	5 12 0	5 12 0	5 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	14 0 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	{ 4 12 0 to 5 0 0 }	{ 4 8 0 to 3 0 0 }	{ 6 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 to 20 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 to 20 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 }	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 4 0	3 4 0	4 8 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	24 0 0	5 12 0	5 6 0	4 10 0
...	...	...	7 0 0	7 0 0	6 0 0	...	...	...	4 0 0	3 12 0	4 0 0
...	...	...	5 12 0	5 12 0	5 8 0	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 2 0
...	...	...	5 4 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	13 0 0	...	...	...
10 0	3 14 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	12 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	3 0 0
...	...	...	2 8 0	2 16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 0 0	4 6 0	4 8 0	20 12 10	17 0 0	15 0 0	...	...	...
...	3 10 0	3 8 6	...	5 12 0	5 4 0	...	24 8 0	24 8 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	{ 4 11 0 to 5 6 6 }	{ 5 0 0 to 5 11 0 }	{ 5 0 0 to 5 11 0 }	22 12 0	20 0 0	17 12 3	...	...	{

GHI (CLARIFIED BUTTER).			TOBACCO LEAF.			HIDES (COW).			GRASS.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
35 0 0	35 0 0	34 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	250 0 0	250 0 0	245 0 0	0 18 0	0 18 0	0 14 0
32 0 0	32 0 0	30 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
} 33 0 0	33 0 0	} 37 0 0	... Madhakhali. ... Pulta. ...			... Uncleaned hides, per piece— { 0 14 0 | 0 14 0 | 0 12 0 } { to 2 6 0 | to 2 6 0 | to 2 4 0 } Cleaned hides, per piece— { 1 6 0 | 1 6 0 | 1 0 0 } { to 2 10 0 | to 2 10 0 | to 2 8 0 }			...	...	...
	34 0 0		7 8 0	7 8 0	5 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
53 0 0	53 0 0	52 0 0	8 12 0	6 8 0	8 2 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
53 0 0	53 0 0	52 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	7 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 0 0	35 0 0	36 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 6
36 0 0	40 0 0	42 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	5 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4
45 0 0	45 0 0	40 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	18 8 0	18 0 0	20 0 0	...	...	...
29 0 0	29 0 0	30 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	...	...	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 4
20 7 6	20 7 6	30 7 7	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
36 6 6	38 8 0	34 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	29 0 0	33 12 0	...	4 4 0	4 8 0	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	...	0 8 11	0 8 1
27 18 0	27 18 0	29 8 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	per maund.	...	...	...	...
34 0 0	34 0 0	36 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 2 8	0 2 8	0 2
							per piece.				

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 22, 1899.

2257

in the undermentioned Marts of Bengal on the 15th November 1899.

STRAW.			JUAR STALKS.			PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 STANDARD SEERS.									MARTS.
						IRON.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
0 10 0	0 10 0	0 12 0	...	...	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	5 4 0	0 8 0	0 9 0	0 7 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 6 0	1. Calcutta.
0 3 0	0 3 0	0 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	2. Burdwan.
0 2 5	0 2 5	0 2 3	...	...	...	{ 4 0 0 to 4 8 0 }	{ 4 0 0 to 4 8 0 }	{ 3 0 0 to 5 0 0 }	0 4 0	0 3 3	0 3 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3. Midnapore.
0 13 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	...	...	...	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	4. Patna.
0 7 0	0 7 0	0 8 0	...	...	...	7 0 0	6 0 0	7 0 0	0 5 3	0 5 3	0 5 3	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	5. Rangpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	3 8 0	3 9 0	3 12 0	6. Dacca.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	7. Chittagong.
...	...	0 4 0	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	0 5 6	0 5 6	0 5 0	3 7 6	3 7 0	3 8 0	8. Patna.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 11 6	5 11 6	8 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 10 6	9. Munshikpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	6 5 0	6 8 0	5 0 0	0 6 0	0 6 6	0 5 9	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 14 0	10. Bhagalpur.
...	0 9 6	0 11 3	...	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	...	0 4 0	0 4 0	...	3 0 0	3 2 0	11. Cuttack.
No fixed rate.	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 11 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 2 0	4 1 0	4 2 0	12. Ranchi.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

I.

IMPORTS INTO CALCUTTA.

The following Statement shows the Quantities of the Principal Staples of Traffic imported into Calcutta from the Interior by Rail, Road, River (Country-boat and Steamer) and Canal during the month of August 1899.

Whence imported.	FOOD-GRAINS.										FIBROUS PRODUCTS.			OILSEEDS.		Tea, Indian.	Cotton, raw.	Silk, raw.	Oat and cake.	Indigo.	SUGAR.		TOBACCO.	
	Rice and paddy.			Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains.	Total.	Jute, raw.	Gunny-bags,†	Linseed.	Mustard seed.	Refined.	Unrefined.	Manufactured.	Unmanufactured.									
	Rice.	Paddy.*	Total (in rice).																					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
BENGAL.																								
Bardwan	77,371	1,85,574	Mds.	2,104	25,799	Mds.	1,02,435	109	18,000	6,868	825	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	22,00,871	Mds.	Mds.	86	71	17				
Bellary	3,504	6,989	Mds.	820	7,753	Mds.	35,028	2,906	2,906	1,073	158	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	4,617	Mds.	Mds.	2,720	1,100	2,084				
Bidhanpur	91,458	12,031	Mds.	438	7,753	Mds.	1,07,731	4,930	4,930	1,073	158	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	7,672	Mds.	Mds.	6,298	9,865	2,084				
Bongaon	2,06,595	45,773	Mds.	9,416	36,430	Mds.	2,67,131	13,523	485,684	6,335	1,547	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	8,100	Mds.	Mds.	8,214	2,655	997				
Buxa	2,27,882	47,565	Mds.	35	3,287	Mds.	2,60,845	1,296,132	6,033	31,020	2,039	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	13,763	Mds.	Mds.	535	2,500	2				
Calcutta	2,46,855	5,944	Mds.	23,476	3,44,276	Mds.	4,90,416	47,493	19,197	16,459	2,039	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.	29	443	1,673				
Chandpur	28,870	2,892	Mds.	33,089	71,181	Mds.	1,33,035	7,505	2,095	770	501	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.	2,037	1,673					
Chitragong	5,735	9,775	Mds.	1,143	1,143	Mds.	23,336	1,071	525	572	1,256	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.	8,285						
Chittagong	31,524	21,056	Mds.	333	4,431	Mds.	40,671	1,929	35,075	539	1,445	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.		771					
Cuttack	93,465		Mds.		630	Mds.	94,195	10,103	5,950		40	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.		51,969					
Dumraon	448		Mds.	649		Mds.	1,015	31,433	770			Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Durgam	13,423		Mds.	268	180	Mds.	18,570	25,545	11,594	4,579	31,337	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Faridkot	9,112		Mds.	1,847	19,863	Mds.	30,682	2,51,564	700			Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Faridkot	4,459		Mds.	787	7,792	Mds.	13,688	3,53,910	1,840	578	8,619	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Faridkot	57,838	2,073	Mds.	3,403	1,03,369	Mds.	1,71,594	1,57,536	775	13,538	16,112	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Faridkot	1,10,899	1,660	Mds.	251	1,841	Mds.	1,24,194	5,91,533	2,505	13,538	16,112	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Faridkot	23,023		Mds.	251	1,841	Mds.	1,24,194	5,91,533	2,505	13,538	16,112	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Faridkot	28,436	575	Mds.		400	Mds.	25,165	31,770	410	433		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.		Mds.	Mds.							
Total of Bengal	10,66,448	2,91,750		78,158	6,36,347		19,47,010	15,59,010	1,963,784	86,745	58,442		1,921	2,614	23,43,413		655	26,147	24,130	3,100				
BIHAR.																								
Patna				6,109	20,531		45,912		70	1,41,094	8,942		50					246	373	1,403				
Gaya				2,066	10,787		2,080			17,046									1,043	470				
Shahabad				1,974	210		2,807			34,257	1,870								707	2				
Samat										19,574	8,452													
Chauran										26,733	7,700													
Muzaffarpur				590	1,409		25,155			64,236	14,014								453	583				
Darbhanga				10,674	18,115		3,736			43,031	8,679													
Maner				26,531	2,522		4,100			13,812	16,122													
Maner				3,734	3,734		3,734			2,330	6,531													
Maner				1,716	8,775		2,018			2,330	6,531													
Maner				31,192	5,101		40,753			6,021														
Total of Bihar	202			1,07,031	78,091		23,620	39,001	8,305	4,41,868	78,012		588	46				2,461	5,337	2,063				

† Exclusive of bags obtained by local manufacture.

* One maund a paddy is equivalent to 25 seers of rice.

Whence imported.	FOOD-GRAINS.										FIBRE PRODUCTS.			OILSEEDS.		Tea, Indian.	Cotton, raw.	Silk, raw.	Coal and coke.	Indigo.	SUGAR.		TOBACCO.	
	Rice and paddy.		Wheat.	Other food-grains.	Total.	Jute, raw.	Gunny, bags, †	Linseed.	Mustard seed.	Refined.	Unrefined.	Unmanufactured.	Manufactured.											
	Mds.	Paddy.*												Total (in rice).										
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12						13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
ORISSA.																								
Cuttack	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Balasore	400	2,090	400	110	2,577	2,577	70	1,773	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
Total of Orissa	2,104	2,097	2,353	100	2,453	2,453	70	1,773	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
CHOTA NAGPUR.																								
Hamaribagh	11	11	11	11	11	11	70	1,773	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
Manbhum	11	11	11	11	11	11	70	1,773	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
Sloughbhum	11	11	11	11	11	11	70	1,773	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
Total of Chota Nagpur.	11	11	11	11	11	11	70	1,773	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	
Grand Total of supplies from the Provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.																								
	16,71,846	3,91,927	12,54,109	1,94,089	7,13,500	46,726	1,500,510	5,32,366	1,37,375	64,845	2,367	2,000	23,00,043	26	655	23,636	80,496	5,163						
OTHER PROVINCES.																								
Assam	13,104	26	13,104	26	13,104	26	176	557	41,973	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	26	26	26	26	26	26	1,100	2,45,066	68,467	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
Punjab	26	26	26	26	26	26	1,100	2,45,066	68,467	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
Central Provinces	26	26	26	26	26	26	1,100	2,45,066	68,467	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
Rajputana and Central India.	26	26	26	26	26	26	1,100	2,45,066	68,467	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
Berar	26	26	26	26	26	26	1,100	2,45,066	68,467	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
Bombay	26	26	26	26	26	26	1,100	2,45,066	68,467	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
Madras	26	26	26	26	26	26	1,100	2,45,066	68,467	3,03,766	13,115	3,03,766												
Grand Total of Imports in August																								
	16,85,441	3,91,927	12,54,109	1,94,089	7,13,500	46,726	1,500,510	5,32,366	1,37,375	64,845	2,367	2,000	23,00,043	26	655	23,636	80,496	5,163	89,718	4,130	4,353			
	7,00,323	1,94,104	6,78,027	2,03,693	3,13,023	35,521	1,003,054	11,74,068	2,03,791	2,21,533	90,033	3,278	46,033,570	48	1,54,930	46,033	54,305	4,353						

* One maund of paddy is equivalent to 25 seers of rice. † Exclusive of bags obtained by local manufacture.

II.

The Sea-borne Trade of Calcutta in these staples during the month of August 1899 was as follows:—

EXPORTED FROM CALCUTTA.	Rice.	Paddy.	Total (in rice).	Wheat.	Gram and pulses.	Other food- grains.	Total.	Jute, raw.	Gunny- bags.	Linseed.	Mustard seed.	Tea, Indian.	Cotton, raw.	Silk, raw.	SUGAR.	
															Refined.	Unrefined.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
To Indian Ports, viz.—	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Bombay ...	1,07,510	83	1,07,593	26,565	1,37,267	.....	2,61,361	.....	1,160,050	.....	10,324	6,095	.....	.....	373	.....
Madras ...	5,998	.....	5,998	102	76,600	411	83,171	.....	260,450	.....	.....	57	.....	10	165	.....
Burma ...	3,023	.....	3,023	2,815	15,468	1,482	22,788	89	2,267,600	61	.....	249	79	.....	1,326	1,092
Other Indian ports ...	232	.....	232	318	27,078	.....	28,546	11	63,400	.....	.....	7	1	10	2,034	2,074
Sind ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	184,750	.....	.....	29	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total of Inter- portal Trade	1,10,783	30	1,10,803	26,885	2,47,373	1,893	3,35,968	70	3,941,450	61	10,324	6,437	80	20	4,377	3,166
To Foreign Ports—																
United Kingdom	5,69,696	.....	5,69,696	4,81,821	2,40,320	201	12,92,038	1,72,250	3,989,500	7,56,168	22	1,08,659	632	1,508	.....	.....
Other foreign ports ...	53,927	3,143	55,891	67,698	40,112	16,272	1,79,973	1,39,318	38,860,170	275	162	41,658	13,414	84	185	.....
Total of Foreign Trade	6,23,623	3,143	6,25,587	5,49,519	2,80,432	16,473	14,72,011	3,12,568	42,639,670	7,56,463	184	1,49,817	14,066	1,632	185	.....
Grand Total (1899 of Exports in August 1898)	7,40,406	3,173	7,42,389	5,76,319	5,27,805	18,366	18,67,879	3,02,635	40,781,120	7,56,524	10,508	2,46,756	14,140	1,672	4,532	3,166
	6,91,477	425	6,91,742	1,09,081	1,15,488	5,170	8,37,451	2,76,877	19,840,775	15,94,176	81,489	1,71,493	17,891	2,501	3,581	2,231

III.

IMPORTS INTO CALCUTTA.

The following statement shows the several Routes followed by the Trade in the Principal Staples of Traffic imported into Calcutta during the month of August 18 .

SPECIFICATION OF ROUTES.	FOOD-GRAINS.					FIBROUS PRODUCTS.		OILSEEDS.		Tea, Indian.	Cotton, raw.	Silk, raw.	Coal and Coke.	Indigo.	SUGAR.		To Mds.
	Rice.	Paddy.	Wheat.	Gram and pulses.	Other food- grains.	Jute, raw.	Gunny- bags.	Linseed.	Mustard seed.						Re- fined.	Un- refined.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
By country boats ...	7,67,980	1,32,593	68,667	3,71,030	4,538	92,705	1,303,689	76,891	50,927	.....	732	439	12,814	...	641	23,183	12,814
.. river steamers ...	39,198	5,113	19,635	41,977	4,668	2,53,914	24,045	69,240	53,874	1,84,002	182	1,377	13,633	...	13	712	...
.. rail { E. I. Railway	84,312	1,38,601	3,32,706	1,39,991	23,582	79,608	31,455	6,11,866	1,36,943	1,191	39,644	357	38,45,900	36	.....	6,148	5,411
.. rail { E. B. S. Rail- way, Assam-Bengal Railway.	92,806	131	6,163	2,80,302	13,127	11,48,130	631,260	18,742	16,748	59,729	965	454	1,575	...	.....	1,441	3,411
.. rail { Bengal-Nag- pur Railway.	10,506	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,110	1,725	122	.....	19,823	59	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....
.. road ...	2,348	207	.....	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	.....	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.. road ...	86,457	19,976	36	392	.....	19,633	12,000	716	.....	.....	297	...	6,120	...	.....	770	4,311
Grand Total of Imports in { 1899	10,85,441	2,91,937	4,27,206	7,74,642	46,115	15,81,611	1,903,684	7,78,944	2,53,513	2,64,836	32,042	2,600	38,50,062	25	605	32,254	59,714
Imports in { 1898	7,89,222	1,31,104	2,03,895	3,15,082	25,521	11,31,197	1,300,959	11,74,692	3,62,791	2,25,933	90,033	3,278	40,03,870	46	1,54,090	40,085	66,511

IV.
EXPORTS FROM CALCUTTA.

The following Statement shows the Values and Quantities of the Principal Staples of Traffic exported Inland from Calcutta by Rail, Road, River (Country-boat and Steamer) and Canal during the month of August 1899 :—

Whither exported.	COTTON PIECE-GOODS.		COTTON TWIST.		Salt.	Kero- sine oil.	Gunny- bags.	Whither exported.	COTTON PIECE-GOODS.		COTTON TWIST.		Salt.	Kero- sine oil.	Gunny- bags.
	Euro- pean.	Indian.	Euro- pean.	Indian.					Euro- pean.	Indian.	Euro- pean.	Indian.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BENGAL.															
Barwan ...	Rs. 76,005	Ra. 3,170	Mds. 466	Mds. 1,983	Mds. 20,710	Mds. 7,424	No. 166,245	ORISSA.	Rs.	Ra.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.
Bhatnagar ...	29,353	0,722	140	1,829	14,131	2,647	107,040								
Bombay ...	1,14,393	12,202	1,477	247	47,449	2,903	9,185	Balasore ...	2,076		25	1,182	148	4,035	
Brethly ...	1,05,805	1,400	420	127	1,178	5,592	40,419	Total of Orissa ...	2,076		25	1,182	148	4,035	
Bu-Pargana ...	2,39,770	9,440	862		11,043	73,066	16,105	CHOTA NAGPUR.							
Buda ...	1,32,554		1,664	339	27,653	7,402	161,800	Hazaribagh ...	8,511		150	4,062	620	2,095	
Burshidabad ...		590	333	103	21,444	3,134	87,005	Manbhum ...	55,198		97	1,196	12,439	1,922	7,770
Buxar ...	10,196		189		14,021	6,358	3,470	Singbhum ...	10,764	340	60	4,435	264	9,045	
Casore ...	12,074			79	3,800	1,153	14,245	Total of Chota Nagpur ...	74,383	340	157	1,332	20,956	2,815	19,110
Chakma ...	41,078		140	56	10,417	2,579	16,645	Grand Total of Supplies into the Provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal ...							
Chakuli ...	15,279			122	9,548	1,887	30,215								
Dumra ...	67,152		33	216	8,652	2,046	385								
Dumra ...	1,64,044			382	2,742	1,582	1,240								
Dumra ...	1,24,076	844	69	425	16,436	8,131	11,445								
Dumra ...	67,648	612	142	16	4,054	645	33,070								
Dumra ...	87,442		92	305	64,610	60,390	36,240								
Dumra ...	62,401			12	1,403		910								
Dumra ...	6,11,280		2,559	141	53,514	13,935	16,030								
Dumra ...	1,41,033	1,802	7	190	5,540	2,225	6,475								
Dumra ...	79,033		1,214	101	22,029	6,922	79,177								
Dumra ...	542				45,735	17,050	4,130								
Dumra ...	69,690	5,904	1,194		4,170	3,991	22,820								
Dumra ...	578				14,075	350	595								
Dumra ...	8,017	374	252			65	1,030								
Total of Bengal ...	21,78,172	43,128	11,763	6,402	4,40,338	2,27,107	863,554								
BIHAR.															
Tina ...	50,422	68	400	812	13,425	18,426	131,790	Assam ...	4,10,070	9,072	8,444	1,050	39,648	16,600	33,467
Tina ...	19,078	374	9	143	5,144	1,763	11,345	North-Western Provinces and Oudh ...	10,32,238	2,720	2,047	432	10,312	32,218	288,505
Shahabad ...	90,026	714	8	1,000	13,808	695	62,090	Punjab ...	2,91,760	2,804	280	33	8,513	101,473	
Saran ...	63,945		385	80	13,488	1,745	21,175	Central Provinces ...	30,827	2,006	181	116		2,840	77,210
Samatara ...	40,312	170	74	295	12,882	1,104	18,795	Rajputana and Central India ...	31,556	784	59	2		1,000	17,395
Samatara ...	40,526		3	126	10,312	4,126	25,095	Benar ...	1,426						3,710
Samatara ...	57,536		70	1,406	21,301	3,481	20,790	Bombay ...	1,426						
Samatara ...	16,452	1,054	9	1,057	13,596	6,104	60,190	Sind ...	92						
Samatara ...	52,512	36	2	1,708	20,916	2,297	35,230	Grand Total of Exports in August ...	45,92,708	60,480	19,103	18,550	6,84,095	3,35,639	1,855,729
Samatara ...	35,696		103	810	15,107	5,062	13,745		57,31,898	55,238	20,220	33,919	5,36,818	3,23,360	21,462,494
Samatara ...	19,458		82	302	5,523	940	16,435								
Samatara ...	24,455	476	37	1,431	18,800	4,844	48,595								
Total of Bihar ...	5,40,818	2,890	1,263	9,105	1,72,659	49,284	440,375								

V.

The Sea-borne Trade of Calcutta in these Staples during the month of August 1899 was as follows :—

IMPORTED INTO CALCUTTA.	COTTON PIECE-GOODS.		COTTON TWIST.		Salt.	Kerosine oil.	Gunny-bags.
	European.	Indian.	European.	Indian.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
From Foreign Ports—							
United Kingdom ...	Rs. 22,22,536	Ra. 6,006	Mds. 5,403	Mds. 1,166	Mds. 8,08,431	Mds. 7,150	No. 3,30,156
Other foreign ports ...					3,40,865		
Total of Foreign Trade ...	22,22,536		7,069		11,53,296	3,37,306	
From Indian Ports—							
Bombay ...	41,428	1,31,915		11,523	93,451		
Madras ...	6,132	67,489					
Barma ...	64,290						
Total of Interportal Trade ...	1,11,870	1,98,704		11,523	93,451		
Grand Total of Imports in August ...	23,40,412	1,98,704	7,069	11,523	12,46,777	3,37,306	22,800
August ...	1,50,43,461	6,59,090	9,316	25,177	26,660	5,55,906	

* As per tariff declaration value.

VI.

The following Statement shows the several Routes followed by the Trade in the above Principal Staples of Traffic exported from Calcutta during the month of August 1899 :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SPECIFICATION OF ROUTES—							
By country boats ...	Rs. 1,07,200	Ra. 1,200	Mds. 917	Mds. 1,03,948	Mds. 31,777	Mds. 57,626	No. 57,626
By river steamers ...	10,35,434	2,030	7,831	1,051	1,78,350	1,11,714	169,785
By rail { East Indian Railway ...	20,45,544	21,156	3,862	16,493	2,20,288	94,869	1,209,125
By rail { Eastern Bengal State Railway ...	10,3,005	3,298	4,403	2,740	84,760	88,611	370,190
By rail { Assam-Bhagal Railway ...	62,130	14,478	1,029	2	1,295	310	8,505
By rail { Bengal-Nagpur Railway ...	562	14,078		972	834	520	3,394
By road ...	2,08,363	9,040	686		4,591	7,828	4,110
Grand Total of Imports in August ...	45,92,708	60,480	19,193	18,550	6,84,095	3,35,638	1,855,729
August ...	57,31,898	55,238	20,220	33,919	5,36,818	3,23,360	21,462,494

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 18th November 1899.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

**Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
12th to 18th November 1899.**

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.				Inches.	"	"		"	"	Inches.		%			Inches.	
Nov.	12th	187.2	9.1	29.932	68.9	81.8	23.8	58.6	63.4	0.512	59.6	76	WNW and calm	53	Nil	Clear, ☀.
"	13th	182.8	8.7	28.82	68.9	81.9	22.2	59.7	63.0	.490	58.9	74	NW by W, NNW, and calm.	42	"	Clear, ☀.
"	14th	184.4	8.2	29.22	69.1	82.7	21.8	60.9	63.9	.528	60.5	77	WNW and calm	36	"	Clear, ☀, ☁.
"	15th	185.4	6.5	29.71	68.5	83.5	24.4	59.1	63.3	.514	59.7	77	NW by W and calm.	26	"	Clear, ☀, hazy.
"	16th	186.4	9.0	30.036	68.8	83.5	25.0	58.5	63.8	.528	60.5	78	N and calm	31	"	Clear, ☀.
"	17th	185.8	9.2	30.26	69.6	83.0	22.9	60.1	64.8	.560	61.6	78	NNW and calm	45	"	Clear, ☀.
"	18th	183.4	8.8	30.49	70.8	82.8	22.3	60.5	65.4	.565	61.9	73	N and calm	25	"	Chiefly clear, ☀, ☁.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	29.974
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	Hour.
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	59.0
				77.1
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	69.2
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	75.8
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	25.0
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	83.5
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	Miles.
				9
				%
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	76
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	72
The total fall of rain from 12th to 18th November 1899	...	...	...	Inches.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	Nil
The total fall from 1st January to 18th November 1899	...	...	...	0.05
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	71.95
				65.14

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official table computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

☀, dew; ☁, fog.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,

Calcutta, the 20th November 1899.

G. W. KÜHLER,

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India
and Director-General of Indian Observatories.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Major Works for the month of September 1899, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.			TOLLAGE, 1898-99.		
	During the month.			During the month.		
1	2	3	4	5		
<i>Orissa Circle.</i>	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
Taldanda Canal System	617 6 6	5,954 1 9	2,340 8 6	14,153 6 3		
Kendrapara ditto	5,662 11 7	31,519 15 1	6,485 8 0	37,087 8 11		
High Level Canal, Range I	1,075 0 3	6,572 0 0	1,798 0 3	9,830 15 9		
Ditto, " II	182 2 6	1,506 4 3	265 15 0	1,568 2 0		
Ditto, " III	75 15 9	800 7 3	73 8 0	576 9 3		
Jajpur Canal	30 11 9	223 13 9	10 5 0	83 9 6		
Total Orissa Circle	7,644 0 4	46,576 10 1	10,973 12 9	63,300 3 8		
<i>South-Western Circle.</i>						
Midnapore Canal	8,417 15 9	48,479 0 6	7,770 1 6	46,999 0 9		
Hijili Tidal Canal	3,979 13 0	29,575 13 9	5,455 7 6	45,926 5 9		
Total South-Western Circle	12,397 12 9	78,054 14 3	13,225 9 0	92,925 6 6		
<i>Sone Circle.</i>						
Patna Canal System	4,487 4 0	23,992 8 0	2,837 10 6	18,286 6 3		
Arrah ditto	2,146 4 6	15,451 12 3	3,895 12 1	24,503 13 9		
Buxar ditto	1,364 15 3	7,744 15 9	708 11 6	4,932 2 9		
Total Sone Circle	7,998 7 9	47,189 4 0	7,442 2 9	47,722 6 9		
GRAND TOTAL	28,040 4 10	1,71,820 12 4	31,641 8 6	2,03,948 0 11		

Government Transport Service.

CANAL.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.						TOLLAGE, 1898-99.					
	During the month.			To end of the month.			During the month.			To end of the month.		
	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Orissa Circle.</i>	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.
High Level	10,233	13	10,117 7 9	49,023	2,500	40,267 6 0	4,163	38	2,835 9 3	21,042	2,400	15,782 0 2
Total Orissa Circle	10,233	13	10,117 7 9	49,023	2,500	40,267 6 0	4,163	38	2,835 9 3	21,042	2,400	15,782 0 2

Assessed Tollage Receipts.

CANALS.	EARNINGS, 1899-1900.			EARNINGS, 1898-99.		
	During the month.			During the month.		
1	2	3	4	5		
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
Orissa Canals	17,761 8 1	86,844 0 1	13,859 6 0	79,082 3 10		
Midnapore Canal	8,417 15 9	48,479 0 6	7,770 1 6	46,999 0 9		
Hijili Tidal Canal	3,979 13 0	29,575 13 9	5,455 7 6	45,926 5 9		
Sone Canals	7,998 7 9	47,189 4 0	7,442 2 9	47,722 6 9		
Total	38,157 12 7	2,12,088 2 4	34,527 1 9	2,19,736 1 1		

CALCUTTA,
The 21st November 1899.

A. H. C. MACCARTHY,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Minor Works and Navigation for the month of September 1899, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.		TOLLAGE, 1898-99.	
	During the month.	To end of the month.	During the month.	To end of the month.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...	25,991 3 9	1,25,766 8 9	20,107 2 9	95,348 4 3
Tolly's Nala ...	7,793 3 0	38,577 7 6	5,245 1 9	23,733 8 9
Total ...	33,784 6 9	1,64,344 0 3	25,352 4 6	1,19,081 13 0
Orissa Coast Canal ...	2,935 9 9	21,503 0 0	4,510 0 0	36,841 3 6
Nadia Rivers ...	18,672 4 0	69,469 13 0	15,148 1 6	52,198 13 2
GRAND TOTAL ...	55,392 4 6	2,55,316 13 3	45,010 6 0	2,08,121 13 8

CALCUTTA,
The 21st November 1899.

A. H. C. MACCARTHY,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 18th of November 1899, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 18TH NOVEMBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 19TH NOVEMBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	970	1,38,275	2,113	630	76,800	1,209
Jute ...	302	1,34,275	1,993	271	1,10,525	1,804
Firewood ...	103	83,660	1,256	45	31,575	476
Other articles ...	1,024	2,06,025	2,877	808	1,71,050	2,440
Total ...	2,999	5,62,225	8,239	1,754	3,89,950	5,929

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Statement of Goods Traffic in staples carried during the four weeks ending 23rd September 1899 as compared with the same period of 1898.

STAPLES.	1898.		1899.		INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.
	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Coal & Coke carried for the public and foreign railways	78,25,880	11,30,057	84,88,713	12,28,695	6,12,833	98,638	.....	.....
Cotton, raw	28,688	11,075	51,680	52,100	23,092	21,025	.....	.....
Cotton, manufactured—								
1.—Twist & Yarn, European	5,825	6,079	5,216	5,028	.....	.....	609	1,051
2.—Ditto, Indian	38,816	17,947	49,104	19,125	10,288	1,178	.....	.....
3.—Piece-goods, European	67,738	81,534	1,02,352	86,375	34,614	4,741	.....	.....
4.—Ditto, Indian	18,570	12,353	10,710	10,373	.....	.....	2,851	1,980
Drugs and Chemicals—								
1.—Intoxicating, other than opium	730	995	1,400	1,360	670	365	.....	.....
2.—Non-intoxicating	11,000	7,834	12,536	9,000	1,536	1,166	.....	.....
Dyes and Tans—								
1.—Indigo	686	532	843	365	157	.....	.....	167
2.—Myrobolams	7,006	2,502	2,630	781	.....	.....	5,060	1,718
3.—Cutch	2,213	1,143	1,091	832	.....	.....	.....	311
4.—Turmeric	11,592	9,472	9,623	2,245	.....	.....	1,968	7,227
5.—Alizarine and aniline dyes	1,235	109	279	205	87	96	.....	.....
6.—Al (Morinda citrifolia)	5	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....
7.—Others	321	161	1,041	163	720	2	.....	1
Grain and Pulse—								
1.—Wheat	3,34,276	89,521	9,20,076	1,53,520	5,85,800	64,008	.....	.....
2.—Rice in the husk	42,210	4,704	1,59,827	25,438	1,17,617	20,754	.....	.....
3.—Rice not in the husk	2,62,713	41,733	5,30,884	1,14,815	2,68,171	73,092	.....	.....
4.—Jowar and bajra	10,023	1,633	63,063	10,531	53,040	7,918	.....	.....
5.—Gram & pulse	2,62,071	58,001	11,87,030	3,33,125	8,84,358	2,75,124	.....	.....
6.—Others	33,046	9,123	3,08,009	73,800	2,75,323	64,677	.....	.....
Hides and Skins—								
1.—Hides of cattle	24,365	13,343	52,023	30,682	27,658	17,290	.....	.....
2.—Skins of sheep, &c.	18,793	8,554	2,360	11,454	7,253	6,580	.....	.....
Horns	1,926	1,059	2,432	1,071	600	12	.....	.....
Hemp and other fibres	71,599	14,234	15,782	2,631	.....	.....	63,617	11,603
Jute—								
1.—Raw	54,288	13,226	1,00,049	27,784	45,761	14,558	.....	.....
2.—Gunny-bags and cloth	78,516	41,846	90,426	47,076	11,910	5,230	.....	.....
Leo—								
1.—Stick	24,427	8,508	32,015	12,930	7,588	4,488	.....	.....
2.—Shell	15,000	13,239	23,282	15,452	7,382	2,223	.....	.....
Leather, manufactured	6,378	7,020	6,271	7,948	.....	.....	107	276
Liquors—								
1.—Ale and Beer	9,063	3,638	13,113	4,206	3,150	370	.....	.....
2.—Spirits of all kinds, including country spirit	1,896	2,325	1,923	1,114	27	.....	.....	1,211
3.—Wines	2,412	4,005	2,168	3,015	.....	.....	246	1,050
4.—All other sorts, including toddy and fermented liquor, other than ale and beer	81	17	139	27	57	10	.....	.....
Metals—								
1.—Copper, unwrought	1,464	1,432	175	180	.....	.....	1,289	1,252
2.—Brass, ditto	2,035	1,172	1,130	1,107	.....	25	845	.....
3.—Copper, wrought	1,573	1,091	928	600	.....	.....	347	485
4.—Brass, ditto	15,167	6,736	14,487	5,004	.....	.....	680	1,132
5.—Iron and steel—								
(a) Cast	18,392	5,153	15,692	4,300	.....	.....	2,700	793
(b) Unwrought	10,726	376	29,439	1,072	18,713	1,397	.....	.....
(c) Wrought	63,971	28,830	72,983	30,004	9,032	7,854	.....	.....
(d) Manufactures of iron and steel	26,024	15,034	30,373	12,863	3,340	.....	.....	2,171
6.—Zinc and spelter	2,630	1,795	1,403	639	.....	.....	1,167	1,136
7.—Others	7,017	5,081	10,917	8,710	3,900	2,729	.....	.....
Oils—								
1.—Kerosine	1,21,890	42,342	63,351	32,422	.....	.....	26,539	9,920
2.—Castor	2,724	1,130	2,030	846	206	.....	.....	246
3.—Cocunut	3,076	1,214	5,008	1,708	1,932	494	.....	.....
4.—Mustard and rape	5,964	2,227	8,555	2,346	3,601	800	.....	.....
5.—Others	6,447	2,257	5,298	2,744	851	487	.....	.....
Oilseeds—								
1.—Linseed	5,01,601	1,59,340	5,59,372	1,54,038	.....	.....	49,228	5,311
2.—Rape and mustard	3,00,313	83,201	1,75,022	41,778	.....	.....	1,25,281	41,433
3.—Til or jinjili	6,496	667	8,788	2,042	2,292	1,375	.....	5,127
4.—Poppy	66,030	18,037	34,265	9,010	.....	.....	32,725	36
5.—Karthuats	127	41	10	3	.....	.....	.....	6,748
6.—Castor	64,069	15,492	35,020	9,740	.....	.....	.....	.....
7.—Others	11,142	2,780	31,063	7,844	19,921	5,064	20,030	.....
Opium	223	83	439	273	216	190	.....	.....
Paper and pasteboard	25,570	10,184	20,133	9,663	.....	.....	3,437	371
Provisions—								
1.—Ghee	37,779	29,195	41,090	20,475	4,220	.....	.....	2,780
2.—Dried fruits and nuts	11,804	5,246	17,047	7,016	5,753	1,770	.....	.....
3.—Potatoes	53,032	18,289	66,819	20,768	13,487	12,463	.....	.....
4.—Others	69,358	28,328	98,040	33,433	29,193	6,106	.....	.....
Railway plant & rolling-stock carried for the public & foreign railways—								
1.—Locomotive engines & tenders & parts thereof	4,171	1,736	8,964	1,901	4,793	165	.....	.....
2.—Carriages & trucks & parts thereof	7,603	2,016	7,117	1,109	.....	.....	486	607
3.—Materials—								
(a) Steel rails & fish-plates	3,411	4,971	7,134	3,422	3,723	.....	.....	1,540
(b) Sleepers and keys of steel and cast-iron	.....	.....	86,301	11,594	26,391	11,594	.....	.....
(c) Other sorts	34,428	8,176	1,73,397	19,277	1,37,969	11,101	.....	.....
Salt	4,07,463	68,323	2,58,300	60,147	.....	.....	1,19,063	8,075

STAPLES.	1898.		1899.		INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.
Saltpetre, &c.—	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
1.—Saltpetre	38,650	11,726	27,046	11,092	.....	.....	6,513	634
2.—Other saline substances	29,433	7,003	32,220	7,858	.....	.....	1,227	45
Silk, raw—								
1.—Foreign ... ..	.....	.....	2	1	2	1	.....	.....
2.—Indian	666	600	579	337	.....	.....	87	213
Silk piece-goods—								
1.—Foreign ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2.—Indian	198	376	125	201	.....	.....	73	175
Spices—								
1.—Betel-nuts	17,260	12,413	10,041	14,480	.....	2,007	319	.....
2.—Pepper	1,880	1,328	2,240	1,721	391	393	.....	.....
3.—Ginger	2,021	1,219	2,708	1,080	.....	.....	.....	.....
4.—Chillies	7,732	5,323	9,087	5,760	1,355	434	173	130
5.—Cardamoms	450	428	1,035	823	.....	395	.....	.....
6.—Others	1,151	762	1,090	875	839	113	.....	.....
Stone and lime	3,55,207	50,355	4,58,924	69,910	1,03,717	19,555	.....	.....
Sugar—								
1.—Refined	10,316	3,404	14,807	7,718	4,491	4,314	.....	.....
2.—Unrefined	1,32,606	24,439	1,71,060	29,037	39,354	4,698	.....	.....
Tea—								
1.—Foreign	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
2.—Indian	3,043	2,714	3,606	2,108	.....	.....	275	606
Timber	58,721	11,422	98,300	15,040	39,579	4,404	.....	.....
Tobacco	38,562	16,711	41,513	14,090	2,951	.....	.....	1,615
Wool—								
(a) Raw	1,696	790	1,735	784	39	.....	.....	.....
(b) Manufactured—								
I.—Carpets and rugs	469	684	621	856	152	172	.....	.....
II.—Piece-goods, European	2,088	4,638	1,900	2,360	.....	.....	788	2,208
III.— " Indian	3,519	3,624	2,165	2,722	.....	.....	1,161	906
IV.—Other sorts of manufactures	29	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	27
All other articles of merchandise—								
1.—Bones	42,946	10,181	31,756	4,891	.....	.....	11,190	5,100
2.—Firewood	22,924	1,556	27,889	1,779	4,965	491	.....	.....
3.—Indigo seed	6,407	2,044	12,397	5,274	5,990	2,330	.....	.....
4.—Oil-cake	64,291	10,038	67,000	10,200	2,709	268	.....	.....
5.—Paints & colours	21,162	3,209	8,783	3,442	.....	143	12,379	.....
6.—Seeds other than oilseeds	38,421	18,314	35,064	14,067	.....	.....	3,167	3,337
7.—Wooden articles	10,293	4,333	11,090	4,575	797	246	.....	.....
8.—Others	2,74,957	1,08,250	6,12,069	1,20,023	3,37,112	12,007	.....	.....
Total	1,24,67,300	25,05,371	1,67,65,181	31,70,963	32,07,681	6,65,612	.....	.....
Military stores	22,958	33,254	44,272	44,641	21,320	11,887	.....	.....
Coal for railway	12,07,724	1,05,878	13,51,410	1,02,146	1,23,686	.....	.....	1,733
Railway materials	19,05,403	61,794	16,03,846	60,578	.....	.....	3,01,567	1,316
Live-stock ... ..	.....	7,600	.....	20,731	.....	10,231	.....	.....
Total	1,56,03,379	27,11,797	1,67,44,709	34,05,079	31,41,330	6,93,382	.....	.....

C. W. CLARKE, Assistant Auditor.

TRAFFIC AUDIT OFFICE, GOODS DIVISION, JAMALPUR, the 13th November 1899.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BIHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 834 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including steamer-boats.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	310,880	Rs. A. P. 1,11,330 0 0	Mds. s. 12,00,000 0	Rs. A. P. 2,85,030 0 0	Rs. A. P. 14,830 0 0	Rs. A. P. 4,11,160 0 0	35,740	48,624	84,364
Per mile of railway ...	204	133 0 0	1,430 0	342 0 0	2 0 0	477 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 18 weeks of half-year ...	3,533,997	18,59,019 0 0	1,93,05,103 0	40,06,062 0 0	3,18,073 0 0	80,41,747 0 0	640,493	780,771	1,427,264
Total for 10 weeks ...	3,753,877	17,70,340 0 0	2,07,05,165 0	43,51,082 0 0	3,50,905 0 0	84,52,927 0 0	682,233	839,995	1,522,228
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	186,168	90,046 0 0	12,31,000 0	2,45,861 0 0	1,2137 0 0	2,57,044 0 0	35,090	41,998	77,088
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	226	129 0 0	1,360 0	298 0 0	2 0 0	420 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	3,511,603	15,71,021 0 0	1,90,60,110 0	38,54,540 0 0	3,30,120 0 0	67,63,281 0 0	623,440	749,891	1,403,330

NOTE.—Increase is chiefly due to rice, grain and pulse, and kerosine oil.

* Excluding steamer earnings.

† Audited up to 10th September 1899.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	37,280	Rs. A. P. 9,000 0 0	Mds. s. 50,780 0	Rs. A. P. 6,670 0 0	Rs. A. P. 120 0 0	Rs. A. P. 15,000 0 0	2,378	2,770	5,148
Per mile of railway ...	317	105 0 0	590 0	76 0 0	2 0 0	163 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 18 weeks of half-year ...	4,20,935	1,32,535 0 0	7,06,766 0	62,788 0 0	2,005 0 0	1,88,329 0 0	45,962	29,866	75,768
Total for 10 weeks ...	4,48,215	1,41,535 0 0	7,63,525 0	69,338 0 0	3,125 0 0	2,14,018 0 0	48,290	32,636	80,926
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	23,424	7,552 0 0	61,553 0	6,093 0 0	129 0 0	14,404 0 0	2,506	2,971	5,476
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	272	88 0 0	731 0	78 0 0	2 0 0	168 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	4,23,734	1,33,402 0 0	6,33,606 0	57,619 0 0	3,723 0 0	1,94,743 0 0	43,983	40,207	84,190

* Audited up to 16th September 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 54 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	5,060	Rs. A. P. 1,100 0 0	Mds. s. 15,910 0	Rs. A. P. 900 0 0	Rs. A. P. 37 0 0	Rs. A. P. 2,060 0 0	710	214	924
Per mile of railway ...	94	20 0 0	295 0	17 0 0	.....	37 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 18 weeks of half-year ...	65,694	14,809 0 0	80,083 0	4,686 0 0	115 0 0	10,610 0 0	10,565	11,245	21,810
Total for 10 weeks ...	70,754	15,009 0 0	1,02,998 0	5,586 0 0	115 0 0	21,610 0 0	11,275	11,439	22,714
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	2,600	551 0 0	7,390 0	311 0 0	.....	863 0 0	163	207	469
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	76	17 0 0	230 0	9 0 0	.....	20 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	4,049	956 0 0	17,913 0	838 0 0	.....	1,784 0 0	371	1,543	1,914

* Audited up to 10th September 1899.

BRAHMAPUTRA-SULTANPUR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 24.75 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,670	680 0 0	11,340 0	610 0 0	80 0 0	1,220 0 0	280	440	997
Or per mile of railway ...	67	21 0 0	458 0	25 0 0	3 0 0	49 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 18 weeks of half-year ...	26,444	8,033 0 0	1,34,321 0	7,564 0 0	923 0 0	16,623 0 0	3,650	11,546	18,306
Total for 19 weeks ...	28,114	8,663 0 0	1,45,661 0	8,174 0 0	1,003 0 0	17,740 0 0	4,080	11,986	16,066
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* Includes ballast train-miles 320.

† Audited up to 16th September 1899.

COOCH BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 83.18 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	3,140	860 0 0	10,540 0	750 0 0	40 0 0	1,050 0 0	815	747	1,562
Or per mile of railway ...	95	26 0 0	318 0	23 0 0	.....	340 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 18 weeks of half-year ...	26,017	12,870 0 0	1,51,339 0	13,871 0 0	1,842 0 0	28,283 0 0	5,903	19,004	20,907
Total for 19 weeks ...	39,157	13,730 0 0	1,61,879 0	14,621 0 0	1,882 0 0	30,233 0 0	6,818	15,731	21,549
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,293	480 0 0	6,509 0	1,774 0 0	122 0 0	1,276 0 0	139	417	556
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	58	22 0 0	308 0	80 0 0	1 0 0	103 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	23,109	8,192 0 0	83,810 0	9,700 0 0	2,007 0 0	19,899 0 0	3,914	10,113	13,027

* Includes ballast train-miles 390.

† Audited up to 16th September 1899.

‡ Excluding ferry.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 139 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	30,654	12,786 0 0	1,408 0	7,315 0 0	135 0 0	30,166 0 0	4,642	3,003	7,645
Or per mile of railway ...	236	198 0 0	514 0	52 0 0	1 0 0	151 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 17 weeks of half-year ...	542,357	3,10,225 0 0	14,65,692 0	1,61,862 0 0	10,245 0 0	3,68,332 0 0	78,239	70,800	1,49,039
Total for 18 weeks ...	573,011	2,23,011 0 0	15,37,160 0	1,69,107 0 0	16,380 0 0	4,08,498 0 0	82,881	74,112	1,57,993
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	30,683	13,426 0 0	94,828 0	10,523 0 0	138 0 0	34,092 0 0	4,072	3,677	7,749
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	235	108 0 0	759 0	84 0 0	1 0 0	193 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	583,522	2,06,789 0 0	13,76,213 0	1,01,677 0 0	6,040 0 0	3,14,515 0 0	74,705	61,953	1,36,658

* Audited up to 23rd September 1899.

† Coaching traffic calculated on 139 miles only.

SEGOWLIE-BAKSAUL BRANCH RAILWAY.

(WORKED BY THE B. & N.-W. RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 4th November 1899 on 18 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
	No.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 18 miles open ...	543	189	18,012	505	3	647	133	119	252
Or per mile of railway ...	30'17	7'72	1,000'67	28'06	0'17	35'94	.....	.....	...
For previous 1½ weeks of half-year ...	470	381	6,741	178	19	528	177	188	365
Total for 3½ weeks ...	1,013	470	24,753	683	22	1,175	310	307	617
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 18 miles open ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...

N.B.—The line has been re-opened for coaching traffic from 23rd October 1899.

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Approximate earnings for the week ending 4th November 1899 ...	10,216	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898 ...	16,877	0	0
Decrease ...	6,661	0	0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 4th November 1899 ...	200	5	■
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898 ...	930	14	9
Decrease ...	130	9	9
Receipts from 1st July to 4th November 1899 ...	2,00,000	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898 ...	2,52,474	0	0
Decrease ...	52,474	0	0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1899.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

[Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.]

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REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE SALT MARKET FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1899-1900.

No. 448B, dated Calcutta, the 17th November 1899.

From—N. D. BRATSON BELL, Esq., c.s., Offg. Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P.,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

I AM directed to submit the following report on the state of the salt market for the second quarter of 1899-1900, comprising the months of July, August, and September 1899.

SALT.

THE HON'BLE MR. W. B. OLDHAM, C.I.E.

2. The quantity of salt of every description cleared during the quarter amounted to 25,99,230 maunds, as compared with 29,38,009 maunds in the previous quarter and 25,27,796* maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year; and the net amount of duty levied thereon was Rs. 60,54,751, as against Rs. 69,58,672 in the previous quarter and Rs. 58,82,958* in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

* Revised figures.

3. The quantity of locally-made salt removed from the *golas* in Orissa during the quarter, and the quantity which remained in store at its close, are shown in table (I) below :—

TABLE I.

1	2
	Puri.
	Mds.
Balance at the close of the previous quarter ...	4,64,609
Manufactured or added during the quarter ...	.....
Total ...	4,64,609
Sold during the quarter ...	17,834
Wastage ... ..	.....
Total ..	17,834
Balance at the close of the quarter ...	4,46,675

The total sales of locally-made salt during the quarter amounted to 17,834 maunds, as compared with 17,148 maunds in the previous quarter and 20,950 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Duty was paid on the full quantity sold.

4. The subjoined table (II) shows in detail the importations into the port of Calcutta and the total clearances of sea-imported salt during the quarter, as compared with the figures of the corresponding quarters of the last two years :—

TABLE II.

WHENCE IMPORTED.	1897-98.		1898-99.		1899-1900.	
	Second quarter.		Second quarter.		Second quarter.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
I.—United Kingdom ...	21,22,891	14,01,977	13,87,081	14,91,163	23,39,369	12,13,329
II.—Hamburg ...	2,03,632	2,59,631	1,81,573	2,03,391	4,32,348	2,34,409
III.—United States ...	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fiji Islands ...	48	48	.....	.....	.....	.....
Victoria ...	.....	.....	3	3	.....	.....
Ras Bawayah ...	4,64,139	38,584	4,91,477	1,08,108	5,11,349	2,74,481
Madagascar ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,765
Muscat ...	21,000	5,560	.....	500	.....	2,110
Salief ...	4,06,294	1,72,997	4,19,470	1,61,000	.....	1,17,655
IV.—Aden ...	2,14,705	3,76,279	1,39,533	81,348	2,69,480	2,39,370
Smyrna ...	3	3	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lanka ...	.....	13,988	.....	4,516	46,920	11,590
Jedda ...	.....	60,277	.....	18,110	.....	22,770
Manjam ...	.....	44,904	1,63,444	43,262	.....	30,123
Singapore ...	.....	.....	5	5	.....	.....
Madras ...	7,716	14,976	10,000	10,024	4,300	.....
V.—Visagapatam ...	.....	.....	200	200	4,450	.....
Ocoanada ...	.....	.....	47,652	46,054	4,300	608
Ondaloro ...	.....	.....	5	5	.....	.....
VI.—Bombay ...	1,17,869	1,23,310	2,14,331	93,796	2,40,116	1,68,759
Total ...	36,59,381	25,48,507	29,94,564	23,61,179	39,02,613	24,09,499

5. Table III shows the quantity of sea-imported salt remaining in the warehouses at the close of the quarter, as compared with the results of the previous four quarters:—

TABLE III.

WHERE STORED.	Second quarter of 1898-99.	Third quarter of 1898-99.	Fourth quarter of 1898-99.	First quarter of 1899-1900.	Second quarter of 1899-1900.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sutkea Government Salt Golam	14,96,488	16,24,340	18,02,026	17,29,129	24,17,057
Kidderpore Dock ditto	6,43,290	5,03,972	5,12,171	5,07,003	6,01,160
Chittagong Government Salt Golam	1,05,229	1,75,854	1,36,309	75,710	46,651
Ditto private ditto	1,32,081	98,637	98,567	52,957	23,115
Narayanjan (private bonded salt warehouses)	16,170	58,000	59,067	41,297	32,123
Khalna ditto	2,048	2,082	2,233	1,605	1,596
Balasore ditto	5,100	4,072	33	888	310
Chandbali ditto	15,639	10,184	20,147	10,559	12,490
Bhairab Bazar ditto	24,000	21,500	22,500	25,850	25,000
Jhalakati ditto	40,800	36,900	46,000	18,100	19,541
Bhagalpur ditto	2,120	...	...	...	...
Total	24,89,403	27,46,381	27,59,972	25,12,062	32,37,636

6. The despatches of salt from Calcutta by water and the three railways passing through the several pass-stations into the interior of the country, both east and west of the river Hooghly, as well as the despatches by steamers and flats during the quarter and the corresponding quarters of the last two years, are shown in table (IV) below:—

TABLE IV.

PERIOD.	BY WATER.					BY RAIL.			BY STEAMERS AND FLATS.	
	Via Balli khali.	Via Santail.	Via Govan- khali.	Via Kidder- pore.	Via Balli- ghatta.	Via Rathals Ghat.	By the East Indian Rail- way.	By the Eastern Bengal, Ben- gal Central and South-East- ern Railways or via Chitpur.	Quantity des- patched into the interior (excluding Orissa).	Quantity des- patched to Orissa.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Second quarter of 1897-98...	1,86,937	1,35,014	61,130	49,635	3,16,734	1,390	10,31,288	2,30,178	4,13,746	15,100
Ditto of 1898-99...	1,67,134	1,23,412	60,767	80,379	1,88,481	880	6,66,539	4,06,370*	5,32,240	15,500
Ditto of 1899-1900	1,80,898	1,43,800	57,553	81,863	2,24,490	...	5,77,021	5,02,760	3,96,105	20,600

* Revised figure.

7. The quantity of salt despatched by the East Indian Railway to stations beyond Buxar during the quarter amounted to 9,094 maunds and 20 seers, as noted in the margin, against 5,621 maunds and 10 seers in the previous quarter, and 1,871 maunds and 30 seers in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

8. The quantity of saltpetre removed from the refineries during the quarter on payment of duty amounted to 1,965 maunds, as compared with 5,552 maunds in the previous quarter and 3,442 maunds in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

9. The shipments of Liverpool salt for the ports of Calcutta and Chittagong, according to the published market reports, were as follows:—

				Tons.
July	1899	...	...	28,570
August	"	...	...	11,120
September	"	...	...	23,210
Total		...	...	62,900

It is reported that two sailing vessels were *en route* for Calcutta at the close of the quarter with 7,300 tons of salt from Hamburg.

10. Table V shows the average wholesale price per 100 maunds of Liverpool and other descriptions of salt during each fortnight of the quarter:—

TABLE V.

DESCRIPTION OF SALT.	Fortnight ending the 15th July 1899.	Fortnight ending the 31st July 1899.	Fortnight ending the 15th August 1899.	Fortnight ending the 31st August 1899.	Fortnight ending the 15th September 1899.	Fortnight ending the 30th September 1899.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Liverpool panca	Rs 4 11	63 11 0	63 0 0	60 12 3	54 2 0	57 4 3
Hamburg karkach	55 0 0	54 0 0	53 0 0	53 4 6	52 5 4	53 13 7
Muscat ditto	34 8 9	35 0 0	35 0 0	35 0 0	35 0 0	33 8 0
Jedda ditto	36 13 4	37 0 0	37 8 0	35 0 0	35 0 0	33 8 0
Bombay ditto	59 14 0	55 3 7	47 14 8	45 6 8	43 13 0	45 6 4
Rock ditto						

11. The following table (VI) shows the quantity of sea-imported salt admitted into bond and cleared from bond and shipboard at the several outports and inland warehousing stations:—

TABLE VI.

PORT OR STATION.	Description of salt.	ADMITTED INTO BOND.		CLEARED.	
		Second quarter of 1898-99.	Second quarter of 1899-1900.	Second quarter of 1898-99.	Second quarter of 1899-1900.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.	Mds. s. c.
Chittagong	Liverpool	90,985 0 0		66,375 16 0	67,333 39 0
	Hamburg		6,240 0 0	11,235 10 0	655 0 0
	Madras				0 1 0
	Burma			0 3 12	
Narayanganj	Liverpool	73,500 0 0	1,06,500 0 0	1,06,318 15 0	1,35,372 0 0
Khulna	Ditto	9,748 0 0	5,550 0 0	12,243 0 0	4,755 0 0
Belasore	Ditto	10,940 0 0	5,000 0 0	6,650 10 0	5,401 0 0
Chandbali	Ditto	23,050 0 0	15,000 0 0	22,124 0 0	18,000 0 0
Bhairab Basar	Ditto	40,800 0 0	40,595 0 0	36,440 0 0	41,100 0 0
Jhalakati	Ditto	1,16,630 0 0	42,500 0 0	75,135 16 0	60,663 0 0
Bhawalpur	Ditto	1,530 0 0		6,820 0 0	
Purulia	Ditto			9,712 0 0	
Total		3,03,313 0 0	2,21,305 0 0	3,43,363 20 12	3,93,700 0 0

No transactions in sea-imported salt have been reported for the quarter from Cuttack and Puri.

RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE BHAGALPUR DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1898-99.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Darjeeling, the 14th November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 608T.G.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Bhagalpur Division for the year 1898-99.

MR. O'DONNELL held charge of the Division for eight months of the year and Mr. Carstairs for the remainder of the period. The report was submitted by Mr. Williams, the present Commissioner. In Monghyr, Mr. Marriott held charge for seven months after a previous tenure of the Collectorship for two years. During the remaining five months of the year there were changes which could not be avoided. Elsewhere the change of Collectors was unimportant.

2. The tours of the Commissioners extended over 81 days only, but included the inspection of all district and subdivisional head-quarters, except Pakaur and Begusarai. The Magistrates of Monghyr and Bhagalpur spent 85 and 83 days, respectively, on tour, and, as a contrast, the Magistrates of Malda were out for 140 days. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the criticisms of the Commissioner on the tours in Malda and Bhagalpur; and in the latter district more attention might with profit have been bestowed on the inspection of the various wards' estates. The Collector of Bhagalpur apparently failed to inspect his office and that of the Supaul subdivision during the year. As his tour was unduly short, the explanation for his omission that he had much work in March is scarcely satisfactory.

3. *Weather and crops: Material condition of the people: Public Health.*—The rainfall was considerably above the average in all districts, save the Sonthal Parganas, where it was rather below the normal. The divisional estimate of the *bhadai* crops was 93, and of winter rice 96, compared with 100 as the normal standard. There is, however, little doubt that the estimate is too low. For instance, the Collector of Malda, who states that "on the whole the past year, from an agricultural point of view, has been a good one," has reported 98 and 94 as the outturn of the *bhadai* and winter rice, respectively. The present system of notation appears to be still misunderstood, based as it is on the subjective standard that a normal crop is one which the cultivator has a right to expect, and *not* the objective one of the average crop of the longest sequence of years for which statistics are forthcoming. Hence arises the contradiction in terms in the statement that the crops for the Division were excellent and averaged 93 and 96, respectively, *i.e.*, were below the normal. Consequent on the good crops prices of food fell much below the level of the two previous years, which were, however, exceptionally high. The poorer classes accordingly enjoyed a fair share of prosperity. Work was abundant and wages tended to rise. The year was on the whole a healthy one, the number of registered deaths falling in all districts, except Purnea. The decrease in the Sonthal Parganas was almost 50 per cent., and, though due no doubt in part to the defects of registration, it probably corresponded with a real and considerable decrease in the number of deaths.

4. *Manufactures: Mines: Commerce.*—The area under poppy again slightly decreased, though the produce was better, amounting to 2,470 maunds. Indigo underwent yet another season of moderate produce and poor prices. There was a marked falling off in the Monghyr gun trade. The silk industry appears to be gaining ground: for though the produce of the two European factories fell in quantity from 47,000 to 37,000 lbs., and in value from Rs. 3,03,000 to Rs. 2,73,000, yet the produce of the native filatures was valued at Rs. 10,00,000, or one lakh more than last year; and the value of piece-goods made rose from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 40,000. The output of mica and coal

was greatly reduced. The volume of both imports and exports fell considerably in the year, mainly on account of the decrease in the grain trade, due to good crops. The most notable changes were the falling off in the export of jute, due to the bad prices of the previous year, which lessened the area of land sown with that crop, the increase in the export of wheat arising from the improvement in the outturn, and the increased use of European cottons at the expense of Indian. The imports from Nepal increased 9 per cent. and exports were slightly less.

5 *Civil Justice*.—It appears from the statements appended to the report that during the year 50,519 cases were disposed of and 7,657 remained pending at the end. The corresponding figures for last year were 44,454 and 9,765. The increase in the number of cases has not been explained. The percentage of witnesses detained more than two days was less than in the last year. The number of pending cases in the Courts of District and Subordinate Judges increased from 270 to 375.

6. *Crime: Criminal Justice: Police*.—The number of cognisable cases, which was 16,076 in 1896 and 27,669 in 1897, fell to 18,501, while that of non-cognisable ones increased. Both results agree with the experience of other Divisions, and may properly be ascribed to the material improvement of the year. Dacoities are reported to have increased in Purnea from 16 to 30, in spite of the vigilance of the District Magistrate, but the genuineness of their character is reported to be open to question. Special measures are being taken to cope with this outbreak. Riots of a serious character were somewhat numerous in Monghyr and Bhagalpur, and the efforts of the police to detect and punish the guilty parties have been unfavourably criticised. Cases declared to be false decreased in number: but it does not appear from the report in how many convictions under section 211, Indian Penal Code, followed. Less use than in the previous year was made of section 250, Criminal Procedure Code.

Stipendiary Magistrates disposed of 11,336 criminal cases, whilst Honorary Magistrates disposed of 3,795. The percentage of convictions was much the same in each case, but the detention of witnesses was greater proportionately in the Courts of the latter. The results of appeals from the judgments of the Honorary Magistrates were less favourable to the convicts than in the previous year. Their attendance was fairly regular, and, on the whole, the quality of their work appears to have improved. The number of cases in which more than six remands were granted fell from 191 to 162. The Commissioner blames the Magistrates and, if he has seen the records, doubtless with justice; but a frequent cause of remands is the failure to prove previous convictions; and if these happen to have been in a Court in some other district or province, the blame cannot be fairly assigned to the trying Magistrate.

The balance of fines outstanding remained much the same as last year, though the amount remitted increased by Rs. 1,000, and the action of the Commissioner in drawing the special attention of Magistrates to this matter is approved by Government.

The remarks of the District Magistrates on the conduct of the police are once more scarcely eulogistic, and the work in Monghyr has not shown any decided improvement. The figures showing the progress made in the substitution of "Act VI" chaukidars for "Regulation" ones are imperfect; but much appears to have been done in Monghyr, and the attention of the Commissioner has been given to the improvement of their condition. The excessive number of fines in some of the districts points to great laxity of discipline.

7. *Land Revenue and Cesses*.—The current demand increased by Rs. 15,756; and with Rs. 86,614 outstanding from the previous year, the total demand aggregated Rs. 34,81,975. The total collections were Rs. 34,00,873, leaving a balance of Rs. 81,102, of which Rs. 14,679 were remitted and Rs. 66,423 were due at the end of the year. The most serious failure in class I of the estates was in Malda, and the explanation that certificates are now about to be filed for arrears which arose in 1896-97 and 1897-98 is scarcely satisfactory. The collections in class II were poor in Bhagalpur, about which, it is said, a special report has been submitted to the Board. The collections in class III were very poor, both for current and arrears, in Monghyr, a result ascribed in part to the floods of September 1898.

The arrear collections in Bhagalpur were only 36 per cent. of the arrear demand, and this, too, is partly explained by the same floods. The Malda collections, both current and arrear, were bad, and the reason assigned is not satisfactory. The revenue work done in Purnea was very good, as was that in the Sonthal Parganas.

The sale law was administered with great moderation; and the Monghyr tauzi office alone was unable to carry out the orders of Government that the sale day for the arrears of each kist should precede the next successive kist. Deficiencies of staff (which has recently been increased), and not of industry, have been advanced as the explanation.

The number of certificates for disposal decreased considerably in Monghyr and Malda, and increased in Bhagalpur and Purnea. The total for the four districts was 16,288 as compared with 17,272 last year. The number pending at the close of the year increased from 4,048 to 4,824. The work in Bhagalpur was not satisfactory, for out of 3,159 cases 1,920 had not been disposed of when the year closed, though it is said in explanation that many of these were instituted at the end of the year. Defaults in the payment of road cess were particularly numerous in Monghyr and Bhagalpur, the outstanding arrears in the former district being 25 per cent. of the current demand. It is clear that the deterrent side of the Public Demands Act needs emphasising in those districts. The total demand for road and public works cesses was Rs. 10,27,613 and collections Rs. 8,85,193. The balance represents 13·8 per cent. of the gross demand.

The amount of land revenue and cesses paid by money-order remained constant. The District Officers complain about the obscurity and unsuitability of the present form—a matter which the Commissioner, if he has not already so done, should, if he agrees with the Collectors, report upon separately. The amount of money-orders issued for the payment of rent shows some decrease. The progress of recovering the loans advanced as *takavi* appears to be satisfactory. As was requested in last year's Resolution, a full statement is given of the use made of the allotment in Government estates for improvements. A quarter of the grant was not utilised, but the reasons advanced are sufficient.

8. *Wards' and Attached Estates.*—The administration of the wards' estates in the Sonthal Parganas was very satisfactory during the year, and in the Khagra estate in Purnea collections were good. The condition of those in Bhagalpur was, however, far from desirable, and the mismanagement of Lagma has been such as to attract the particular attention of Government, which has called for a special report on the matter. It is highly desirable that the Collector of Bhagalpur should devote a considerable portion of his tour to the inspection of the villages in the wards' estates.

9. *Excise: Stamps: Income-tax.*—The excise revenue increased from Rs. 14,86,000 to Rs. 15,56,000, owing to the improvement in the condition of the people, and the incidence per head is now 2 annas 10 pies.

In the case of stamps the decrease in revenue of 2·3 per cent. which occurred in 1897-98 has been followed by a further decrease of 3·8 per cent. in the present year. The falling off was mainly under the head of non-judicial stamps, and it is ascribed to the reduction in the number of transfers of landed property and of mortgages. The Civil Courts and the Collector alike attached a much smaller number of improperly-stamped documents than in the preceding year, and the number of criminal cases instituted also fell off.

The fluctuations in income-tax were of no importance.

10. *Railways and Public Works.*—Great progress was made in the railway extensions in Monghyr. Nothing of importance seems to have been done in the construction of original works by the District Boards. The Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas complains with much emphasis that while his district requires opening up, he has no money with which to do it—a remark which is not understood, as it would appear from the Accountant-General's report on Local Funds for 1898-99 that the balance of the fund in this district at the close of the year was so heavy as to warrant the fact being taken into account when fixing the grant for the current year.

11. *Education.*—The number of boys of a school-going age, according to the usual calculation and exclusive of the Sonthal Parganas, was 507,802,

and the number actually attending school was 77,208, or 15·2 per cent. of the total number. The proportion was lowest in Purnea and highest in Malda. Last year the number of boys was 77,100. Allowing for the natural increase of population, it is clear that so far from the ground which was lost in the famine being recovered, deterioration is continuing. Female education is still more rapidly losing ground: for last year 4,528 girls were attending school, and this year there were only 3,895. The results in the Sonthal Parganas are, however, rather more favourable as regards both boys and girls. The number of Muhammadan pupils decreased both absolutely and relatively. Turning to the various divisions of institutions, Koran schools and the higher Persian and Arabic schools increased in number and had a larger attendance of pupils, and elementary vernacular schools also increased, but the public schools, both English and vernacular, made no progress. From the materials at hand, it cannot be said that in this Division the tendency so noticeable elsewhere for the English schools to gain at the expense of the vernacular, is operating: rather there appears to be a general stagnation in educational matters.

12. *Hospitals and Dispensaries.*—The number of both in-patients and out-patients decreased, and the income of the various institutions was much less than in the previous year. Private subscriptions increased by Rs. 2,000, but the municipalities contributed Rs. 4,000 and the District Boards Rs. 3,000 less. No explanation has been offered in the Commissioner's report for this, though it appears from the appendix that the most economical municipality was Monghyr, which was compelled to considerably reduce its grant for female education also. Purnea remains, as last year, undesirably conspicuous by the possession of four dispensaries only. It is a most unhealthy district, where they should be very numerous; but private liberality, if it flows at all, seeks other channels. It is understood, however, that the District Magistrate has now prepared a scheme for increasing the number of dispensaries, and it is to be hoped that his efforts will meet with success. In the Sonthal Parganas Raja Sites Chandra Pande provided a dispensary at Pakaur, which is likely to be of great utility. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Commissioner that, with the exception of the Sonthal Parganas, the districts are deficient in these institutions, and that the local bodies are not doing as much to remove the deficiency as may be reasonably expected of them.

13. *Local Self-Government Institutions.*—The municipalities appear to have worked fairly well, save in the case of Bhagalpur, in which, however, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Ritchie, the Chairman, some improvement in collections has resulted. Some of them are very tiny, the total expenditure of Old Malda being about Rs. 300 a month, with which, it must be conceded, little can be done. The Chairman of Colgong and the Vice-Chairmen of Monghyr and Purnea are reported to have done good work.

The District Board of Monghyr accumulated a large surplus, partly through the inactivity of its late District Engineer; and Malda, spending Rs. 83,000, left off with a balance of Rs. 23,000. As has been noticed in other Divisions, the state of the Local Boards leaves much to be desired.

14. *Conduct of zamindars.*—There is little to note on this subject. The maliks of Bhagalpur are reported to have behaved well: and the Maharaja Bahadur of Sonbarsa, Rai Ganpat Singh Bahadur and Babu Narpat Singh of Harawat, and Mahashay Tarak Nath Ghosh are eulogised for their benevolence and public spirit. Some of the zamindars of Monghyr are reported to be endeavouring to raise rents in anticipation of the record-of-rights. Elsewhere there is little that calls for comment, though the alleged connection between dacoity and the collection of rents in Purnea is occupying the attention of Government.

15. The Lieutenant-Governor's thanks are due to Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Carstairs for their administration of the Division during the year. Extracts from the report are herewith published for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Extracts from the General Administration Report of the Bhagalpur Division for 1898-99.

III.—WEATHER AND CROPS.

21. The statement given below shows the rainfall and outturn of the crops in each district of this Division last year:—

DISTRICT.	RAINFALL.		OUTTURN OF CROPS ACCORDING TO AMERICAN SYSTEM OF NOTATION.			REMARKS.
	Average of 10 years.	In 1898-99.	<i>Bhadai.</i>	Winter rice.	<i>Rabi.</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Monghyr ...	49·87	54·41	89	100	...	The figures in column 2 are taken from the Bengal Administration Report; those in column 3 from the district reports; those in columns 4 and 5 from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture's final reports. Final forecast of the <i>rabi</i> crop has not been received from the Director of Land Records.
Bhagalpur ...	49·28	60·61	106	100	...	
Purnea ...	58·85	72·37	85	78	...	
Malda ...	53·79	57·07	98	94	...	
Sonthal Parganas	58·11	57·02	90	109	...	
Divisional average	53·98	60·29	93	96	...	

22 The average total rainfall of the district was 54·41 inches, against 51·74 and 41·80 in the two preceding years. The rainfall was fairly distributed throughout the district. As a natural consequence, the outturn of almost all the crops during the year was abundant and much beyond that of the preceding year. The *bhadai* crop would have given a larger outturn had not damage been done on low lands by the floods of the Ganges. The poppy crop promised well in the beginning, but latterly it was partially damaged by hailstorms and west wind.

23. The rainfall of this district last year was much above the average, being 60·61 inches against 49·78 and 39·53 in the two preceding years. There was a great local distribution of rain; it varied from 72·30 inches at Bhagalpur to 52·24 inches at Supaul. The September fall was abnormally heavy, being 22·27 inches, or more than a third of the total for the whole year. This unequal distribution, though to a certain extent it affected the winter paddy, did much good to the *rabi* crops, which all round yielded an outturn above the average. The total yield of the district of all the crops is said to be more than the local requirements and left a large surplus for export.

24. The rainfall of this district was 72·37 inches against 72·59 and 52·93 of the two preceding years. The highest rainfall was 82·44 at Kishanganj and the lowest 66·84 in Purnea. The distribution was not quite satisfactory. In April it was slightly deficient, in May and June fair, in July and August the fall was excessive, September had an abnormal fall, but in October there was less rain than usual, while from November to March there was little or no rain, the result being that food-crops were not so good as in 1897-98. Stocks, however, remained from the preceding year, and the people in general felt no want.

The outturn of *bhadoi* paddy was not favourable owing to the rainfall, while the crop was on the ground, being short. The winter paddy was also much affected owing to the unseasonable rainfall, the average outturn being 78 per cent. against 98 per cent. in the preceding year. A few timely showers, however, favoured the growth of the *rabi* crops. Potatoes, which are extensively cultivated in this district, did not succeed this year. The sugar-cane did well, the average outturn being 98 per cent. Of the non-food-crops in the district, the most important are jute and indigo. The former was to a great extent replaced by *bhadoi* paddy, owing to the bad price fetched by jute in the previous year. For the latter the weather was very seasonable: there being no floods, all the crops sown on diara lands could be gathered, and the result was a normal outturn over a much larger area than usual.

25. The rainfall of the district of Malda was 57·07 inches against 54·17 and 44·81 of the two preceding years. The average is taken from the four rainfall-recording stations of the district. The rainfall was seasonable as well as abundant and well distributed throughout the year, the result being a good outturn of crops to the great relief of the poor. The *bhadoi* paddy was fully up to the average, being cent. per cent., while the winter rice, the principal crop of the district, was little below the average, 94 per cent. Added to this the wheat crop, the next in importance as food-supply to the rice crop, has been a bumper one, being 112 per cent. Indian-corn produced a full crop. There was a heavy shower of rain in October, which was beneficial to the cold-weather crops. The *rabi* pulses also yielded an average crop. The outturn of mangoes, an important crop of the district, was excellent, superior to any that had been seen for many years past. The outturn of jute and indigo was fair and the growth of mulberry plants as good as usual. "On the whole," the Collector writes, "the past year from an agricultural point of view has been a good one."

26. The average rainfall of the district was 57·02 inches against 54·52 and 45·53 in the two preceding years. There was copious rain in the critical time of September and October, while at the ploughing season also a fair amount of rain fell, the result being that crops generally yielded an excellent outturn, winter rice and Indian-corn being especially good.

27. It may be said generally of the Division that the weather was favourable, the rainfall fairly distributed, and the crops excellent.

IV.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

28. The general health of the district of Monghyr during the year under report showed a marked improvement over that of the preceding year, although that year was much healthier than the one preceding it. The total number of deaths registered was 48,737 against 66,483. The decrease occurred under every head. There were a few cases of cholera in every thana in the district, except in the Jamalpur Municipality and thana, in which no deaths from that disease were recorded. The months of the highest mortality from cholera were May and June. Small-pox was also more or less prevalent throughout the district, except in Jamalpur, where no deaths from small-pox were recorded. As usual fever caused the largest number of deaths, viz. 38,243, but this number was 18,000 less than in 1896. The death-rate in the whole district from all causes was 23·9 per thousand of population as compared with 32·6 in the preceding year.

29. In Bhagalpur 53,283 deaths were registered against 60,922 in the previous year, and the death-rate per thousand was 26·2 against 29·9. There was a decrease under each head, except cholera. The death-rate per thousand from this disease rose from 1·5 in 1897 to 2·2 in 1898. There was a marked improvement in the health of the town of Bhagalpur, the deaths within the Municipality being only 1,652 against 2,228 in the preceding year, and the death-rate per mille 24 against 30·2. The average death-rate of the five preceding years is reported to have been 36·5.

30. The health of Purnea, which, as stated in former reports, is a swampy district and to a great extent under water for three months of the year from the floods of the Kosi and Mahanadi, did not improve like that of other districts. The health of the Purnea town, however, was more satisfactory than in the previous year, but that of the Kishanganj town was not so. Malarial fever generally prevailed in the months of November, December, and January, and caused a larger mortality than in the other months of the year. The period from June to September was comparatively healthier. During the hot months of March, April, and May cholera broke out in the Araria subdivision. It began sporadically in the month of January, became epidemic in March, and subsided in June. A Hospital Assistant was engaged by the District Board and deputed to the localities affected. There was another outbreak of cholera in thana Dhamdaha, but it did not last long. A Hospital Assistant paid by the District Board was also sent there to afford medical aid. These outbreaks of cholera are attributed to the filthy habits of the people, to unwholesome food, and to a bad water-supply from pools and ponds. There was an outbreak of small-pox in Saifganj-Katihar Railway Junction and Manihari in April and May, and vaccinators were employed to stamp out the disease by vaccination and re-vaccination. An enquiry was made during the year by Captain E. Harold Brown, Civil Surgeon of Purnea, regarding the peculiar type of fever called "Kala Dukh," which prevailed in the north-east portion of that district, and a detailed report was submitted by him. Both the Civil Surgeon of Purnea and the Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal are of opinion that the disease is only neglected malaria. The Sanitary Commissioner also doubts whether it is really contagious. The matter has been referred to an expert for finding out the true cause of the disease. The number of deaths registered during the year in the Purnea district was 63,614 against 62,018, giving a death-rate of 32·7 against 31·8 per mille in 1897. The death-rate in the town of Purnea, however, was 31· against 33·4. The average death-rate of the last ten years in this district is reported as 29·5.

31. The general health of the district of Malda was decidedly better during the year, the registered mortality being 25,927 against 27,402 in the year before, giving a ratio of 31·8 per mille against 33·6. The most prevalent disease was fever, which accounted for 23,986 deaths against 21,905 in the preceding year. The mortality from cholera showed a marked decrease, there being 100 deaths only against 3,129.

32. Twenty-six thousand nine hundred and one deaths were registered in the Sonthal Parganas against 50,871 in the preceding year, or 15·3 against 29 per thousand. The Deputy Commissioner writes:—

"The decrease is most remarkable, and is equally spread over all subdivisions of the district. While, no doubt, there is, as there always has been, defective registration, the difference between the years 1897 and 1898 is to be mainly accounted for by the greater healthiness of the latter."

The figures, I fear, disclose very bad registration. The Deputy Commissioner, however, writes—

"We had a great immunity from cholera and very little malarious fever."

It must also be borne in mind that the increased death-rate in 1897 was also attributed to famine.

33. It has come to my notice since the close of the year that in a village in the Dumka subdivision the villagers ate the carcasses of cattle which died of anthrax, and suffered from a severe kind of blood-poisoning, from which one child died.

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

39. Having joined the Division since the close of the year under report, I have no personal knowledge of the condition of the people, but take the following from the reports submitted by the District Officers. The year, however, was one of plenty, and the people were, on the whole, well off. The drain upon their resources caused by the famine was to some extent replenished, and their condition assumed a brighter aspect.

40. In this district there was an abundant crop, sufficient not only to maintain the people, but also to replenish their exhausted stocks.

Monghyr.

The price of food-grains did not, however, fall as low as might have been expected in a year of bumper crops. Mr. Marriott writes:—

"There has been a marked improvement in the condition of the wealthy classes evinced by the fact that ornaments of gold are generally displacing the silver ornaments formerly worn by the women, who, it is said, now look down upon the latter as indicative of limited means and inferior taste. The increase in the amount of marriage dowry, compulsory as well as optional, tells of increased wealth amongst this class. A similar improvement, though on a smaller scale, is discernible in the condition of the middle and lower classes. The majority of the middle class, who have not sufficient lands to depend upon for their livelihood, flock to seek Government and railway employment."

Mr. Marriott observes:—

"The poorest class live in dirty hovels, and have but one meal of coarse grain at night, living entirely upon the season's fruits and uncooked food during the day."

"The number of this class who depend on their manual labour for their daily support found sufficient employment in cultivation and in labour on the railways."

With food at low prices the labouring class was better off than it had been for some years past. The Collector writes—

"On the whole, the material condition of the people appears to be rising, for in the markets one may observe an increase in articles of luxury both of European and native manufacture. Shoes of European make or manufacture are gradually taking the place of the cheap country-made shoes, whilst the use of shirts and coats appears to be spreading and to be taking the place of the two pieces of cloth—one for the lower and the other for the upper part of the body. It is said that there is a marked increase in the demand for the services of washermen, and this no doubt indicates that more money is being spent in dress and that greater care is bestowed on it."

41. All the important food staples were unusually cheap owing to the good harvest, and, as a result, all classes of people were well off. The September floods caused much damage to houses in parts of North Bhagalpur, but the year, generally speaking, was one of material prosperity.

Bhagalpur.

42. The sickly appearance of the people in most parts of the district is due to the feverishness of the climate, and not to want of food. Landless labourers are rarely met with in this district. On the contrary, the supply of labour is not equal to the demand. Cultivators who want their surplus lands cultivated for them usually lease them out to men of the labouring classes on the *adhi* or crop sharing system.

Purnea.

43. The condition of the people of this district at the commencement of the year was far from satisfactory. In spite of the good crops prices did not fall so much as was expected, owing to heavy exports to the eastern districts. When the *bhadoi* crops came on to the market, prices fell to their normal level, and from that time onward things improved. The heavy rainfall in October insured a good winter rice crop, followed by a bumper *rabi* harvest. Prices fell, and prospects were brighter than they had been for many months past, and the agricultural population has almost recovered from the effects of the late scarcity. The middle class with small fixed incomes are said to have had at first a bad time. The Collector reports that speaking generally the condition of the people at large at the close of the year was all that could be desired.

Malda.

Sonthal Parganas.

44. The Deputy Commissioner writes—

"Last year was one of abundant crops and plenty, and the people therefore think themselves prosperous and happy. Such a wedding season and such drumming have not been known for years."

He adds—

"This will last till next harvest, and then we shall have pinching. I would like to see some amendment of the general curse, improvidence, and hope that some thing will be done before next famine comes to push it further back. We have done nothing yet, and the second good year is past. The obvious remedies in the hands of Government are water storage and good communication, and perhaps grain banks. Much can and should be, but little has been, done in this district with these."

VI.—EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

45. As in the previous year, emigrants were registered in the districts of Monghyr and the Sonthal Parganas. Those registered in Monghyr under the Inland Emigration Act numbered 81 against 369 and 450 in 1897-98 and 1898-99, respectively. Of these 31 were males, 19 females, and 31 dependants. None were registered under the Colonial Emigration Act. As reported in previous years, there are no depôts, sub-depôts, or rest-houses in this district. There are only two shelters for *sardari* emigrants—one at Monghyr and the other at Lakhisarai. No criminal case connected with emigration occurred during the year.

46. There are no depôts for inland emigration in the district. Very few labourers are recruited for service in Assam. In one case a licensed recruiter was convicted for forcibly trying to recruit a boy. His license has been withdrawn. Of the three depôts in the town under the Colonial Emigration Act, one has recently been closed.

47. There is no regular emigration from or immigration into this district. Under the head Immigration the Collector mentions that lately there has been no immigration of Sonthals to his district, probably because superior inducements are offered by the tea gardens of Assam. It is reported that a large number of coolies passed through Katihar on their way to labour districts in Assam, and difficulty was experienced in finding proper accommodation for them.

48. As reported in previous years, emigration is unknown to the people of the district. The labouring classes find plenty of employment in the fields and in the manufacture of silk both in European and native filatures, and are therefore averse to leave their houses and to seek work elsewhere. As regards immigration, the Collector states that up-country labourers come to the district in the cold season and find employment as harvesters, thatchers, road coolies, and domestic servants. There are some Sonthal colonies in the *Barinda* part of the district in the jurisdiction of thanas Gajole, Gomastapur, Old Mulda, and Nawabganj. Their number, it is said, is gradually increasing, but no reliable statistics are available.

49. There was, as is only to be expected, a marked decrease in the number of emigrants to tea gardens during the year under report compared with 1897-98. The total number registered under the Inland Emigration Act was 130, consisting of 42 males, 43 females, and 45 dependants. The falling off from 670 in the previous year was the natural reaction after the famine activity. Only 137 emigrants were registered under the Sonthal Emigration scheme against 2,038 in the year before. Besides these, 419 coolies were sent to the Lushai Hills for Government work, 192 to the Calcutta Corporation, and 200 for local work to Barisal in East Bengal. There were 28 cases of offences against emigrant coolies, of which 20 were disposed of; 17 of these were for cheating, 1 for wrongful confinement, and 2 for kidnapping; 5 cases were not brought to trial, and 3 remained pending at the close of the year. The increase in the number of cases, the Deputy Commissioner thinks, "seems to indicate a renewal of the pressure which last year's report denoted to have been eased."

Mr. Carstairs writes—

"We cannot tell what is done by free recruiters, and I should very much like to see initial registration in the recruiting district by all who recruit as a business insisted on. We have still the consequences of emigration in the shape of deserted and starving wives and families, children and husbands, abandoned by mothers and wives, and the lost peace and self-respect of families forced on our attention every now and then. This cannot be right or necessary."

50. As practically there is a general consensus of opinion about the need of initial registration, it is to be hoped that now no long time will elapse before it is made compulsory. The fact of families abandoned by the bread-winner is not confined to the Sonthal Parganas alone, as a visit to our English work-houses will bring into prominent notice.

VII.—PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

51. Taking the Division as a whole, the prices of all the three staple food-grains, viz., wheat, rice, and gram, were considerably lower than they were in the last fortnight of March 1898. The price of salt remained the same.

Monghyr.

52. In speaking of the low price of food-grains, the Collector says—

“No doubt stocks are now all replenished and the supply for export ample.”

53. As a result of good harvests there was a marked improvement in the year under review, especially in the prices of wheat and gram.

Bhagalpur.

54. Compared with the figures of the two preceding years, the average price of common rice has fallen considerably. In 1896-97 the price of common rice was $9\frac{1}{2}$ seers a rupee, and in 1897-98 it was $15\frac{1}{2}$ seers a rupee, while in 1898-99 it fell to $18\frac{1}{2}$ seers a rupee. Wheat was selling in the beginning of the year under review at 12 seers per rupee, which is a considerable improvement over the preceding year. The decrease in the price of this grain is due to good crops, as well as to a more extended cultivation in all parts of the district.

Purnea.

55. As in the whole Division generally, so in this district, wheat, rice, and gram were cheaper than in the preceding year. In the last fortnight of March 1899 these grains sold at 18, 20, and 22 seers a rupee, as compared with $12\frac{1}{2}$, 14, and 8 seers a rupee, respectively, in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Malda.

56. The prices of the chief articles of food locally produced were considerably lower than those of the preceding year and only about half those of the year before. In this district there are variations in the prices in different parts of it. Wheat and gram were cheapest in Rajmahal and Pakour, where they are mainly produced. Gram was also cheap in Godda, where it is largely grown, and in Dumka. Rice was dearest in Godda and Rajmahal and cheapest in the south and west of the district.

Sonthal Parganas.

57. An examination of the statements submitted by the District Officers shows that in Monghyr there has been a slight rise in the rates of wages of superior and common masons and of common blacksmiths. In the Sonthal Parganas also there has been an increase in the rates of the daily wages of superior and common masons, superior and common carpenters and of superior blacksmiths. But the minimum daily wages of women and boys in this district fell from 1 anna 6 pies to 1 anna 3 pies and from 1 anna to 6 pies, respectively. The maxima, however, remained the same, viz. 2 annas for women and 1 anna 6 pies for boys.

Prices of labour.

During the harvesting of *rabi* crops ordinary labourers from other districts flock to Monghyr, and this supply prevents any noticeable rise in wages. Such rise as takes place at that time takes the form of an increase in the payment in kind. For instance, the labourer sometimes gets 1 out of 12 bundles reaped by him instead of 1 out of 16 bundles, the more ordinary rate.

The rise in the rates of wages noticed above is, Mr. Carstairs says, chiefly due to emigration, which has competed with local employers of labour. Emigration and local employers alike have, however, not fared as well as usual on account of the abundant harvest. Another cause of the reduced labour supply has, in his opinion, been the stoppage of the improvident alienation of *jote* lands by raiyats, which so frequently ended by their dropping into the landless class. On the subject of a rise in the rate of wages the Deputy Commissioner writes—

“Before there is an actual change of rates there is a time of pressure, when employers try to keep to the old rates and find they cannot get workers for the money. I observe a good deal of this here at present.”

VIII.—MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

58. The area under poppy cultivation was 29,420 bighas and the outturn of opium 2,470 maunds against 29,508 bighas and 2,232 maunds in the previous year. Thus a less area gave a larger outturn. Had it not been for a severe hailstorm on the 11th February 1899 the outturn would have been larger still. The loss from it is estimated at 500 to 600 maunds of opium. The outturn of indigo in the six factories which have supplied information was 4,473 maunds. In 1897-98 the outturn in the seven factories which furnished information was 2,924 maunds. Taking the yield of the six factories for the two years of comparison, it is seen that there was a general increase in the outturn, but poor prices prevailed during the year under report. The large fall off in the price of indigo is a matter of grave concern to all those connected with indigo business. If the price does not rise, many factories will have to be closed, as some in this Division were worked last year at a loss. Molasses, hides, ghee, and saltpetre were largely manufactured and prepared in this district and exported to Calcutta and other places. Ebony boxes, walking-sticks, brackets and fancy articles made of straw were, as usual, manufactured in the Sadar subdivision. Last year only 443 guns and pistols of local manufacture were exported to Calcutta and the eastern districts against 3,013 the year before. The demand still exists on account of their cheapness. Of minor manufactures of this district there are two kinds of cheap coarse cloth which find favour with the poorer classes only.

59. The manufacture of *tassar* and *bafta* cloths, which at one time was a very thriving industry, is at present confined to a few families within the Municipality of Bhagalpur, with whom it constitutes the sole means of subsistence. The manufacture of indigo is, like other districts, not flourishing here, if it is not actually declining. The number of factories was 21 and the total outturn of indigo 1,413 maunds only, valued at Rs. 1,99,289, against 1,867 maunds valued at Rs. 2,54,575 in the preceding year. One factory in the Banka subdivision was not worked during the year; in another there was nominal work, and a third did not send in information regarding its working. The season was not favourable for indigo. Statistics are not available to show the extent of the manufacture of molasses and the production of *ghee*. Nothing unusual has been reported regarding them. Other manufactures of minor importance were iron and brass utensils and coarse cloth in all parts of the district and lac *churis* in the Sadar and Banka subdivisions.

60. The principal manufactures of the district are indigo, country cloth, blankets, brassware, carpentry, gunny-bags, mats, molasses and *bidriware*. There was a normal outturn of indigo over a much larger area than usual. The country cloths, which are used chiefly by the lower classes of the people, on account of their durability and cheapness, are being replaced by machine-made European piece-goods. The blanket-making industry is carried on by the *Garoris* of Katihar, a class of people who keep flocks of sheep. The blankets turned out by them are rough, but durable. The supply is insufficient to meet the local demand and the price is high. The brassware and *bidriware* manufacture is fast declining. The latter industry is confined to a few families in the Purnea city and Kasba. The manufacture of cart wheels is the chief industry in carpentry. Gunny-bags and mats are exported largely from the district. The manufacture of molasses is very extensively carried on in the Kishanganj subdivision. There are large depôts of sugarcane-pressing mills belonging to Messrs. Renwick and Company which are let out at a daily rate of 12 to 13 annas each. Molasses are chiefly exported to Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, and the Morung in Nipal.

61. The chief articles of manufacture are silk, including the various kinds of piece-goods made of silk and silk and cotton mixed, indigo, and brass and bell-metal utensils. Besides the two European silk factories there are numerous native silk filatures in different parts of the district. The two European factories produced

37,615 lbs. of silk of the estimated value of Rs. 2,73,736 against 47,202 lbs. of the estimated value of Rs. 3,03,233 in the preceding year. The estimated value of the silk produced in the native filatures was Rs. 10,00,000 against Rs. 9,00,000 in the year before. The estimated value of the silk piece-goods manufactured by the natives was Rs. 40,000 against Rs. 30,000 in the preceding year. There were six indigo factories. The seventh was not worked during the year. The outturn of indigo is said to have been below the average. The value of the brass and bell-metal utensils manufactured was estimated at Rs. 43,600 against Rs. 30,000. Saltpetre is manufactured in this district on a very small scale. The outturn of the year was estimated at 14 maunds only, which was sold locally for the preparation of fireworks.

62. There were 14 indigo factories working in the district during the year, and their outturn was 577 maunds valued at Rs. 70,537. Molasses are made to a small extent for local consumption, and iron smelting also survives, but is insignificant. Cheap lac armlets for local use are also made. Hand-woven cotton cloth is made in every part of the district, but chiefly on the east side.

63. Three mica mines were worked in the district of Monghyr, and the total output of mica was 18.26 tons. In the preceding year five mines were worked yielding 29 tons of mica. The average number of people employed was 141 against 373 in the preceding year.

The slate quarries in the district of Monghyr continued to be worked by Messrs. Ambler and Company. The quantity quarried during the year was 1,770,359 cubic feet in different shapes. In the district of Bhagalpur lime-making from *kankar* dug out of the soil, though not conducted on any extensive scale, is a paying industry in the neighbourhood of Colgong, and one of the many hills in that locality is being quarried for ballast for the Hajipur-Katihar Railway extension across the Ganges.

Four coal mines were worked in the Sonthal Parganas whose united output was 1,847 tons against 2,879 tons in the year before. On an average 77 hands were employed daily. The principal coal mine is now in the Jamtara subdivision, in the south-east part of which a most promising coal-field has been found, but owing to want of communications it has not yet been developed.

The quantity of stone quarried in the Rajmahal and Pakour subdivisions, so far as reports show, was 70,705 tons.

A small business in clay and lime is carried on near Rajmahal.

IX.—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

64. In compiling statistics under this head for the year under review the instructions conveyed in the Government Statistical Department order No. 787, dated the 17th November last, have been strictly observed. From the returns supplied by the Railway Audit Offices the District Officers have prepared and submitted two statements showing the import and export traffic of their districts. These are submitted as appendices to the report bearing Nos. I to X. The Divisional statements of imports and exports, prepared in the same form as the district statements and numbered XI and XII, are also appended. Two more statements (XIII and XIV) of exports and imports with regard to the trade of the Division with Calcutta, prepared from the monthly statements published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, are annexed.

65. There was no change in the trade routes. Almost all the important trade centres enjoy facilities of export and import by rail, river or road.

The bulk of the trade of the Division is carried by rail; the river steamers and country boats dealing with a comparatively smaller amount of traffic.

The principal articles of trade during the year under review were—

Exports.—Rice, paddy, wheat, gram and pulses, other food-grains, jute (raw), oil-seeds, sugar (unrefined), and tobacco (unmanufactured).

Imports.—Rice, gunny-bags, sugar (unrefined), European piece goods, salt, kerosine oil, and coal and coke.

66. The following table shows in a combined form for last two years the total traffic in 26 principal articles of merchandise imported into and exported from this Division by rail, steamer and country boats:—

ARTICLES.	IMPORTS.								EXPORTS.							
	By rail.		By river.		By canal.		Total.		By rail.		By river.		By canal.		Total.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice ...	6,79,802	1,07,835	1,708	1,815	...	...	6,81,610	1,09,166	11,63,544	9,75,317	827	510	...	...	11,64,361	9,76,827
Paddy ...	5,25,628	90,794	6,324	42	...	...	5,32,052	90,836	6,32,852	3,53,199	210	93	...	...	6,32,803	3,54,069
Wheat ...	8,871	9,622	2-8	...	...	...	9,110	9,622	1,13,718	6,19,246	5	1,765	...	...	1,13,723	6,21,711
Gram and pulses.	38,060	25,157	1,583	1,491	...	...	39,643	26,618	14,98,323	12,06,104	2,177	468	...	...	15,00,460	12,06,998
Other food-grains.	70,716	6,069	25	92	...	...	70,741	6,161	12,24,082	6,74,364	266	1,097	...	...	12,24,937	6,75,461
Jute, raw ...	1,499	531	2,059	2,556	...	...	3,558	3,087	11,50,390	6,90,406	1,537	7,015	...	...	11,51,467	6,97,461
Gunny-bags ...	1,34,619	12,999	7,000	251	...	...	141,619	121,314	23,391	18,317	...	800	...	...	23,391	19,117
Linseed ...	1,163	43,378	2,764	...	...	...	3,927	43,378	5,63,471	6,64,568	2,310	2,848	...	...	5,65,781	6,67,406
Mustard seed ...	5,016	16,093	84	...	...	...	5,070	16,093	12,11,924	9,11,757	26,502	25,612	...	...	12,38,236	9,37,369
Tea, Indian ...	388	173	...	...	...	...	388	173	194	2	...	440	...	...	194	442
Cotton, raw ...	18,236	18,047	...	...	...	...	18,236	18,047	2,410	1,906	...	...	...	...	2,410	1,906
Silk, raw ...	469	1,085	...	...	...	...	469	1,085	4,305	2,335	183	440	...	...	4,487	2,775
Sugar, refined ...	26,162	20,312	100	...	...	...	26,262	20,312	4,813	4,715	...	59	...	...	4,813	4,773
Sugar, unrefined.	1,73,575	1,61,907	273	375	...	...	1,73,848	1,62,282	77,978	1,07,033	80	546	...	...	78,068	1,07,579
Tobacco, manufactured.	1,068	964	...	...	...	...	1,068	964	568	1,063	7,668	...	...	...	6,123	1,063
Tobacco, unmanufactured.	46,397	31,510	...	...	...	...	46,397	31,510	2,44,466	2,75,610	3,083	16,309	...	...	2,47,509	2,91,619
Indigo ...	353	102	...	...	...	...	353	102	12,067	18,258	...	...	...	...	12,067	18,258
Cotton piece-goods, European, in bales.	2,26,646	2,30,716	4	...	...	...	226,650	2,30,716	687	806	...	...	...	...	687	806
Cotton piece-goods, European, in boxes.	1,700	4,380	...	...	...	...	1,700	4,380	120	86	...	...	...	...	120	86
Cotton piece-goods, Indian, in bales.	14,519	12,003	...	...	...	...	14,519	12,003	3,210	3,249	...	...	...	...	3,210	3,249
Cotton piece-goods, Indian, in boxes.	159	86	...	...	...	...	159	86	19	111	...	...	...	...	19	111
Cotton twist, European.	2,191	4,280	...	...	...	...	2,191	4,280	2	186	...	...	...	...	2	186
Cotton twist, Indian.	56,226	60,623	...	...	...	...	56,226	60,623	187	340	...	...	...	...	187	340
Salt ...	10,37,320	10,12,063	53	14,185	...	...	10,37,373	10,26,248	2,123	5,091	...	...	...	...	2,123	5,091
Kerosine oil ...	1,74,125	1,81,773	...	1,840	...	...	1,74,690	1,81,613	1,505	856	...	...	...	...	1,74,690	1,81,613
Coal and coke	36,46,347	41,46,185	16,870	31,906	...	...	36,63,217	41,77,091	7,546	24,906	9,636	12,787	...	...	36,63,217	41,77,091
Total ...	61,99,466	61,99,466	29,977	54,290	125	...	62,53,765	62,53,765	79,81,391	67,43,628	800	69,673	...	...	79,81,391	68,13,501
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
	124,619	1,30,999	7,000	216	...	...	141,619	121,314	23,391	18,317	...	800	...	...	23,391	19,117

It will be seen that the total imports by rail during the year, excluding "gunny-bags" (the figures of which have been given in numbers), amounted to 61,99,466 maunds, against 65,60,308 maunds imported in 1897-98.

67. The exports by rail were 67,43,628 maunds, against 79,26,523 maunds exported in the preceding year.

In statement XVII A of 1897-98 the figures for gunny-bags were included, hence the difference. Taking the Division as a whole, its trade by rail, river and canal amounted during the year to 1,30,67,266 maunds, of which the imports were 62,53,765 and exports 68,13,501 maunds. The exports thus exceeded enormously the imports, the difference being 5,59,736 maunds. A comparison of the figures, however, for the past two years shows that, as was to be expected, there was a considerable falling off in the total volume of trade during the past year, the exports falling off from 79,81,391 to 68,13,501 maunds and the imports from 65,90,410 to 62,53,765 maunds.

68. In imports the decrease under the head of rice, paddy and other food-grains was marked, and was moderate in the case of gunny-bags, cotton (raw), sugar, tobacco and piece-goods (Indian). On the other hand, there was a considerable increase

in the imports of kerosine oil and coal and coke. The figures for the two years are given in the table below :—

NAMES OF ARTICLES.	Imports.		Increase or decrease.
	1897-98.	1898-99.	
1	2	3	4
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	6,81,610	1,69,165	-5,72,445
Paddy	3,29,952	90,836	-2,39,116
Other food-grains	70,741	6,151	- 64,590
	No.	No.	No.
Gunny bags	141,619	121,314	- 20,405
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Cotton, raw	18,246	15,047	- 3,189
Sugar, refined	26,242	20,312	- 5,930
Do., unrefined	1,73,848	1,62,282	- 11,566
Tobacco	47,455	32,444	- 15,011
Cotton piece-goods (Indian)	14,678	13,749	- 929
Kerosine oil	1,74,550	1,91,613	+ 17,063
Coal and coke	36,64,917	41,77,091	+5,12,174

The decrease in the imports of food-grains was expected, as the stocks were replenished in the preceding year, and the price of food-grains in the Division fell. The crops in the Division were plentiful, and there was no need anywhere of any large imports for local consumption.

In the beginning of 1897-98 the imports continued in certain parts of the Division, as the prices were still high.

The decrease in gunny-bags, tobacco, and sugar is attributed to the enforcement of stringent Plague precautions, which stood in the way of the local dealers freely importing them from Calcutta and other places. I am not sure, however, how far this reason affected injuriously the trade on such articles, though it did to a certain extent.

The falling off in cotton (raw) and piece-goods (Indian) is, as usual, attributed to the fact that European piece-goods on account of their cheapness are fast replacing the country-made articles.

The large increase in the imports of kerosine oil and coal and coke is due to the growing popularity of the former on account of its cheapness, and in the case of the latter partly to the construction of the Bengal-North-Western and Hajipur-Katihar Railway extension lines, as also to the growing popularity of coke as fuel for domestic uses.

69. As regards exports, the decrease was marked in rice, paddy, gram and pulse, other food grains and jute (raw), while there was a very considerable increase in wheat, as will be seen from the figures given below :—

NAMES OF ARTICLES.	Year		Increase or decrease.
	1897-98.	1898-99.	
1	2	3	4
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	11,64,891	9,75,827	-1,88,564
Paddy	5,32,862	3,54,059	-1,78,803
Gram and pulse	15,00,460	12,06,562	-2,93,898
Other food-grains	13,24,937	6,75,461	-6,49,476
Jute, raw	11,51,487	6,97,421	-4,54,066
Wheat	1,13,723	6,21,711	+5,07,988

The abnormally large exports of rice, paddy and other food-grains, which took place in the beginning of 1897-98, and the consequent exhaustion of the stocks, account for the falling off in the exports in these articles during the year under review. During 1897-98 about 50,284 maunds of grain and pulse were exported from the Sonthal Parganas alone to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, against 703 maunds exported in 1898-99. The trade of this district with Burdwan, however, rose from 2,45,408 maunds to 2,69,138 maunds and Calcutta, including Howrah, took 2,07,531 maunds, against 1,74,690 maunds in 1897-98.

The great fall in the export of jute is due to the fact that the cultivation of this crop was discouraged in the year under report by the very poor prices of this staple which prevailed in the preceding year.

Wheat is not much used for local consumption in this Division. The bulk of the produce is exported, the major portion of it going to Calcutta. The especially good harvest of this crop increased the export during the year under report.

On the whole the decrease in the total import and export traffic was the natural consequences of a better season.

Trade with Calcutta.

79. Statements Nos. XIII and XIV show exports to, and imports from Calcutta.

So far as the exports are concerned there was an increase, due probably to the better outturn of crops, in the case of linseed, other food-grains, sugar, tobacco (manufactured), coal and coke, and indigo and a decrease in all other articles.

In the import trade the increase is noticeable in all the articles mentioned in Statement No. XIV.

XIII.—CRIME.

80. As was to be expected in a year of good crops, cognizable offences fell from 23,544 in 1897 to 18,501 in 1898, and non-cognizable crime increased, the number of cases being 13,525 under this class last year against 12,557 in the preceding year. The percentage of non-cognizable cases rose from 34.8 to 42.2. This increase was general, but especially high in the Sonthal Parganas, where it rose from 29.3 to 45.2 in the period under review. The Deputy Commissioner writes that the increase was owing to people having more means and time to fight out their quarrels than in the year before.

In 1897 there was an abnormal increase of thefts and burglaries owing to scarcity; with a plentiful crop their number decreased considerably last year.

81. In Purnea the number of dacoities rose from 16 to 30. The large increase of this serious crime formed the subject of special correspondence with Government. Special measures have been taken to suppress and detect these offences, and the District Magistrate, Mr. O'Brien, is paying much attention to this matter. Many of the dacoities are false, while many are the outcome of zamindari disputes, and some seem got up by the police themselves. In the district of Bhagalpur there were nine cases of professional dacoity north of the Ganges. No convictions were obtained. The offences were committed by local men with the help of their friends in the Nepal Terai. The District Magistrate's proposal that the police officers on each side of the border should meet and consult each other was rejected by the Nepal Darbar, but at the same time the Darbar have helped us in the Morang, where the Purnea and Darjeeling districts meet.

82. The number of cases declared intentionally false fell from 769 to 711, but the percentage of false cases rose from 3.2 to 3.8. Monghyr continues to have the largest number of false cases, 287, but in 16 only were there prosecutions for false complaints.

83. There was a marked falling off in the number of cases (from 81 to 41) in which compensation was awarded under section 560, Criminal Procedure Code, in all the districts of the Division, except Purnea. This fact has not been noticed by the District Officers concerned. This section should be made more use of.

XV.—CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

93. The statement below shows the work done by both Stipendiary and Honorary Magistrates:—

DISTRICT.	Number of cases disposed of by Magistrates.		Number of witnesses examined.		Number of persons tried.		Proportion of conviction of persons to persons tried.		REMARKS.
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>By Stipendiary Magistrates.</i>									
Monghyr	2,271	2,350	9,887	8,683	3,087	3,403	54·94	51·89	
Bhagalpur	3,000	3,228	10,231	7,744	3,557	3,014	65·65	60·75	
Purnea	1,748	1,809	7,111	8,830	3,843	3,031	58·66	50·81	
Malda	1,050	1,109	8,706	6,879	1,547	1,545	63·51	64·79	
Sonthal Parganas	4,103	3,783	15,058	14,463	6,426	6,746	60·09	60·11	
Total	11,781	11,338	47,995	46,779	18,069	17,139	63·91	58·06	
<i>By Honorary Magistrates.</i>									
Monghyr	1,484	1,329	4,106	3,988	2,102	1,939	54·85	58·18	
Bhagalpur	1,100	974	1,728	1,473	1,230	1,075	41·97	43·02	
Purnea	500	386	1,037	815	797	581	44·34	40·74	
Malda	161	232	503	637	211	297	35·54	53·19	
Sonthal Parganas	795	874	7,657	1,595	836	1,006	60·30	66·32	
Total	4,044	3,795	9,130	8,808	5,166	4,838	51·70	50·43	
GRAND TOTAL	16,147	15,131	57,115	54,587	23,235	21,977	60·46	57·48	

94. A new Bench was established at Lakhisarai in Monghyr, and some additional Honorary Magistrates were appointed there.

95. The number of cases and persons tried and of witnesses examined both by Stipendiary and Honorary Magistrates decreased during the year, though Purnea and Malda did not share in the general decrease in the case of Stipendiary Magistrates and Malda and the Sonthal Parganas increased in respect of cases tried by Honorary Magistrates.

96. The proportion of convictions by Stipendiary Magistrates of persons to those tried fell off in every district, except Malda, but there was an increase of proportion of convictions by Honorary Magistrates. In Malda the proportion rose from 35 to 53. The result cannot be considered satisfactory. Monghyr especially wants looking to.

97. Two thousand three hundred and fourteen witnesses were detained by Stipendiary Magistrates for more than two days, i.e., 5 per cent. The result is nearly the same (4·8) as in the preceding year. Honorary Magistrates, however, detained 703 witnesses, and their percentage rose from 6·7 in 1897 to 7·9 in 1898.

98. In 69·8 per cent. appeals against the orders of the Honorary Magistrates compared with 60·8 in the previous year, the decisions of the lower Courts were confirmed. This shows a considerable improvement.

Mr. Marriott writes—

“There was a marked improvement in the work done by all classes of Magistrates during the year under report.”

The result of cases tried, however, does not seem to bear out this view; although for that the police may be mainly to blame. Mr. Ritchie also writes to the same effect—

“The work of the Magistracy during the year has been quite satisfactory.”

Mr. O'Brien writes that the improvement in the prompt examination of witnesses and the greater promptitude with which cases were tried are creditable to the Magistrates concerned.

99. With reference to Honorary Magistrates Mr. Marriott writes—

“These tribunals are apt to grant remands on the smallest excuse. Besides Benches often failed to form a quorum in consequence of the irregularity in attendance of some of the Honorary Magistrates.”

100. It will appear, however, from statement XVI of attendance of Honorary Magistrates that many of them attended the Bench regularly, and on a large number of days they did a good amount of work. The District Officers have brought to my notice the large attendance and good work of several of them, and I annex a list of those who deserve special credit for the assistance rendered by them. Honorary Magistrates Babus Gopal Lal, Sitikant Ghose, Sivanandan Prasad Sinha, Bhuvaneshwar Prashad, and Kartic Prashad Choudhuri attended last year their respective benches as many as 237, 133, 120, 220, and 130 times, respectively.

101. There were four serious cases of rioting with fatal results in Monghyr, two of which ended in acquittal. In one of these at least Mr. O'Donnell considered the result not creditable to the police. In Bhagalpur also some serious riot cases about land resulted in acquittal, and the police, Mr. O'Donnell remarked, must share the discredit. There were six serious cases in Bhagalpur between European planters and their dependants, whilst in Monghyr several less important cases of riot were reported during the year between the raiyats on one side and the Majhoul indigo concern and the Sadanandpur factory on the other. Mr. O'Donnell was not satisfied that due measures to stop such cases in future have been taken. In his review of the police reports for last year he wrote—

“I fear prosecutions under these sections (107, 145, C.P.C.) are regarded with little favour. The decisions of the High Courts have been such that it is merely impossible to prove the probability of a riot till it actually occurs.”

102. The percentage of convictions in sessions cases improved from 71.5 in 1897 to 74.1 last year. In the percentage of convictions of persons also there was a slight improvement from 56 to 57.1. The results in Purnea, however, were decidedly poor, the percentages being 62 and 37, respectively; 56 persons were acquitted in this district as against 38 convicted; whereas in Malda 41 persons were convicted and only 18 acquitted. The Purnea Magistrate explains that a large number of persons implicated in two cases were acquitted.

103. The number of cases in which there were more than six remands decreased from 191 to 162. Monghyr still continues to show bad work in this respect; more than six remands were granted in 77 cases, and the number of cases in which there were six remands was also large, being 38 out of 68 in the whole Division. It appears, however, that the Bench Magistrates are responsible for the remands in 28 cases. Mr. Rattray as Subdivisional Officer of Jamui granted remands more than six times in ten cases. He has since been transferred to Rajshahi.

Criminal fines.

104. I give the divisional figures below:—

YEAR.	Balance outstanding.	Fines imposed during the year.	Total demand.	Amount collected.	Amount remitted or written off.	Balance.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1897	21,470	70,065	1,01,894	69,404	10,004	21,736	
1898	21,786	83,547	1,05,083	72,337	11,600	21,106	

Although the amount of fines increased, the balance at the end of the year was less, but still it is very high, specially in the Sonthal Parganas and Bhagalpur. I have drawn the attention of the District Magistrates to the fact that heavy fines, which the offenders are unable to pay, should not be imposed, except under special circumstances, and have also introduced here as in other Divisions the plan of the fines for each subdivision being shown separately in the monthly return.

XVI.—REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

105. The opening of a joint sub-registry office at Gomastapur, in the district of Malda, on the 1st April 1898, increased the number of registration offices in this Division from 30 to 31. Six of the offices were in charge of Special Sub-Registrars and 25 under Rural Sub-Registrars.

106. The total number of documents registered fell from 85,112 in 1897-98 to 69,224 in 1898-99. The decrease, which is common in all districts to nearly all classes of documents, is attributed chiefly to the year having been one of abundance following on two unfavourable years. In Monghyr "the decrease under the head 'Leases' was due to the fact that there was no special registration of leases, and kabuliyats in the larger estates as Darbhanga, Gidhour, and Khaira. In prosperous times, no doubt, the desire to buy land would in some degree weigh against the disinclination to sell. But this desire to expend money on land, &c., would be slow in having its full effect, and cannot be expected at once to counteract the consequences of full crops enabling people to hold on to what they possess."

In Purnea "the decrease is also due to there having been no extensive tenant settlements in the big parganas in the district during the year of report."

Mr. R. Carstairs, Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas, writes—

"The causes of decrease are said to be three, and all, except from a departmental point of view, are matters for congratulation—

"1st.—The people are realising more clearly that alienation of *jote* land by raiyats or of village land by settlement-holders to outsiders is illegal. It has always been, but the pressure has been so great that the practice has not been entirely given up.

"2nd.—The registration of coolie emigrants' contracts (not under the Act) has been given up, because it was found that emigrants no longer considered it equivalent to registration before a Magistrate.

"3rd.—The prosperous year has rendered it less necessary to borrow."

XVII.—CONDITION OF THE DIVISION AS REGARDS LAND AND THE LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

[Note.—Where the figures under this head XVII differ from those in the Annual Land Revenue Administration Report submitted to the Board of Revenue, the difference is due to the inclusion of the figures for the Sonthal Parganas, which are not included in the latter report.]

107. The number of estates borne on the revenue roll rose from 15,070 to 15,164. Ninety-three estates were added by partition. Some relinquished B class lands on the chord line of the East Indian Railway were settled in the district of Bhagalpur as a separate estate under the Board's orders No. 344A, of the 16th September 1897. One estate which had been formerly removed from the revenue roll of Monghyr on account of diluvion was re-entered on the roll, while another estate was removed from the roll of Bhagalpur under the Board's orders No. 462A, dated the 29th November 1898. The net result is an increase of 94 estates.

108. No Government estates were sold or private estates redeemed during the year.

109. The current demand increased from Rs. 33,79,605 to Rs. 33,95,361. The increase of Rs. 15,756 is chiefly due to the resettlements of estates under direct management in the districts of Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Purnea, and the Sonthal Parganas at higher rentals.

110. The current collections were Rs. 33,45,042 during the year against Rs. 33,15,622 in 1897-98, giving a net increase of Rs. 29,420. The percentage of collections was 98.5 against 98.1. Out of an arrear demand of Rs. 86,614, Rs. 55,831, that is, 64.4 per cent., were collected against 89.8 in the previous year; 97.6 per cent. of the current and arrear demands were collected, the remissions amounting to about .4, leaving a balance of only 2 per cent, distributed as follows:—

		Rs.
Class I	...	8,858
" II	...	1,324
" III	...	56,241

111. The percentages of collections in each district are shown in the statement given below:—

DISTRICT.	PERCENTAGES OF COLLECTIONS.		
	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.
1	2	3	4
Monghyr ... { Current ...	99·65	98·51	66·02
Monghyr ... { Arrear ...	100·	99·08	42·71
Bhagalpur ... { Current ...	89·60	67·96	67·07
Bhagalpur ... { Arrear ...	99·00	98·35	35·89
Purnea ... { Current ...	99·96	97·09	95·46
Purnea ... { Arrear ...	99·84	100·	87·28
Malda ... { Current ...	99·75	99·45	60·52
Malda ... { Arrear ...	87·00	88·01	71·66
Sonthal Parganas ... { Current ...	99·69	100·	96·01
Sonthal Parganas ... { Arrear ...	100·	...	98·45

112. In class I the current collections exceeded the standard of 99 per cent. in all districts. The arrear collections were less than 99 per cent. in Bhagalpur and Malda. The arrear balances outstanding at the close of the year were Rs. 112 in Bhagalpur and Rs. 1,471 in Malda. The former amount will be transferred from Deposit Accounts to Land Revenue as soon as the pending appeals regarding the sales are disposed of. The Collector of Malda writes that Rs. 50 are held in revenue deposit till the sales become final, and Rs. 1,421 are due from two estates for the years 1896-97 and 1897-98, when they were Government property and held under direct management. As the proprietary rights of Government in them have now been sold with effect from the 1st April 1898, the balances outstanding against them have been transferred to class I. The non-realisation of the arrears in these estates is attributed to the tahsildar not doing his work properly, and also to the unwillingness of the raiyats to pay till the last moment. Orders have been passed to file certificates for all arrears.

113. In class II the standard of 95 per cent. fixed for *current collections* was exceeded in all districts except Bhagalpur, where the percentage was only 67·96, owing to the recusancy of the lessees. A special report on the subject has been submitted to the Board.

The *arrear demand* in Purnea was realised in full. In the Sonthal Parganas there were no arrears to collect.

In Malda, although the percentage of arrear collections was only 88·01, the balances were remitted at the close of the year. Monghyr exceeded the standard of 99 per cent., while Bhagalpur nearly reached it.

114. In class III the *current collections* exceeded the standard of 90 per cent. in Purnea and the Sonthal Parganas. In the other districts they fell short of it.

The *arrear collections* were below the prescribed standard in all districts, although in the Sonthal Parganas they nearly reached it. In Purnea although the percentage was only 87·28, the arrears outstanding at the close of the year were Rs. 13 only.

115. The Collector of Monghyr writes that if Rs. 6,322 unrealisable on account of diluvion, etc, be deducted from the current demand, the percentage of current collections would be 77·47. As regards the arrear demand, he says that Rs. 11,847 were remitted in the course of the year, and sanction has been received since the close of the year for the remission of Rs. 3,635, while application will be shortly made for the remission of Rs. 255 more. If all these sums be deducted from the arrear demand the percentage of arrear collection will be raised to 71·48. He adds that the very high flood of the year affected the collections to some extent.

116. The Collector of Bhagalpur states that in his district the percentages of current and arrear collections would come to 91·38 and 49·98, respectively, if the fictitious and irrecoverable items, the remissions of which have been sanctioned within the year, be deducted from the current and the arrear demands, and if the remissions sanctioned after the close of the year be taken into consideration, the percentage of current collections would come to

92·57. The raiyats suffered a loss of their *bhadoi* crops by unusual floods, on account of which the collection of Rs. 640 has been suspended under the orders of the Board of Revenue.

117. The Collector of Malda writes that the low price fetched by the *kaiai* crop in the year, and the cocoons of the last season of the year not having been ready for sale within the year, affected the collections.

118. Out of 14,892 revenue paying estates in the Division, 1,167 fell into arrears for a sum of Rs. 41,305. Of these, 66 were sold. The standing orders of Government that the sales for the arrears of one kist day should take place before the next kist day were infringed in Monghyr in the case of the kist ending the 28th March 1899 only. The Collector states that there being a large number of estates and separate accounts in his district, the preparation of the arrear lists takes a good deal of time, and consequently sales for the 28th March kist cannot take place before the 7th June. With the increase of two muharrirs recently sanctioned he hopes that the work will be done more expeditiously.

119. The total number of estates under settlement during the year was 127, of which 69 were disposed of, leaving 58 pending at the close of the year. Of the 69 cases disposed of, 19 were struck off the file, and so the number of settlements actually effected was 50 only. The settlements caused a net decrease of Rs. 60, due chiefly to the resettlement of estates Taufir 2 annas Chandipur and the northern portion of jalkar Gangapath Islampur in Malda for 10 and 5 years, respectively.

120. In the Sonthal Parganas proposals for a revision of settlement under Regulation III of 1872 in respect of 1,855 villages covering an aggregate area of 616 square miles and included in two estates and three tenures were provisionally sanctioned by Government in its letter No. 29931.L.R., dated the 2nd September 1898. The work has been placed in charge of Mr. H. McPherson, c.s., working under the control of the Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Parganas, and under the general supervision of the Director of Land Records. Mr. McPherson joined at Dumka on the 30th October 1898. It was originally intended that the survey and settlement should be made on the lines followed by Mr. Craven in his recent settlements in the Sonthal Parganas; but on a reference made in October 1898 by the Director of Land Records it was decided that the cadastral survey should be preceded by traverse survey, and that the services of the Survey Department should be called in to assist professionally in the work of the cadastral camp. Mr. Berkeley, Extra Assistant Superintendent of Survey, was deputed to carry out the traverse survey and to aid the cadastral work. He was joined later by Mr. Newland, Sub-Assistant of Survey. On the 24th and 25th October a conference, attended by the Director of Land Records and the Superintendent of Settlement-Surveys, was held at Dumka. It was decided that cadastral survey and khanapuri should follow as far as possible the line adopted in Bihar, and various changes were proposed to be made in the settlement forms.

121. In December 1898 a training school was opened at Dumka, and local candidates for employment, chiefly Sonthals, were trained as amins. Detailed survey and khanapuri rules drafted by the Settlement Officer were submitted for the approval of Government. By the 1st of January traverse work was sufficiently advanced to admit of a start being made with the cadastral survey. The area notified for settlement was found on more exact measurement to be 705 square miles instead of 616 square miles, as originally estimated. By the end of March the traverse survey of 1,573 villages covering an area of 680 square miles and the cadastral survey of 532 villages covering an area of 132·16 square miles were completed together with the khanapuri of 243 villages. The landlords of the notified area deposited Rs. 1,21,361 to meet the cost of settlement. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 27,115, excluding traverse, the cost of which will be met from the Imperial funds. The Director of Land Records made a second inspection at Dumka in March last, and in conference with him proposals were made to settle difficulties connected with the working of the khanapuri rules, the settlement of new rents, the maintenance of records and other kindred subjects.

122. Including those pending at the close of 1897-98, there were 16,896 certificates for disposal, their demands aggregating Rs. 3,01,840 against 17,702 certificates with a demand of Rs. 2,89,245 in the preceding year. Of this sum Rs. 1,87,929 were realised by 11,122 certificates, 817 certificates were cancelled, leaving 4,957 cases covering Rs. 1,13,556 pending, Rs. 87,515 were realised on the issue of notice under section 10 and attachment, Rs. 90,264 on issue of sale notification, and only Rs. 10,150 by actual sale or arrest. In Purnea and the Sonthal Parganas the disposals nearly kept pace with the institutions, and in Monghyr and Malda exceeded them. In Bhagalpur alone the disposals were much less than the institutions. The Collectors of Bhagalpur and Purnea write that a large number of cases was instituted in the last quarter of the year, and these should be regarded more as institutions of this year than of the year under review.

123. The Collector of Monghyr reports that section 21, Act I of 1895, has not in any way affected the attendance of bidders in the certificate sales, nor has it increased the difficulties in the way of realisation of public demands.

124. There were 2,871 new cases and 390 remained pending from 1897-98. Two thousand eight hundred and eighty-two cases were disposed of, leaving 379 pending at the close of the year under report.

Four Special Deputy Collectors were, as in the year before, employed for the acquisition of lands required for the South Bihar and Hajipur-Katihar extension of the Tirhut State Railway in the districts of Monghyr, Bhagalpur, and Purnea.

125. In Monghyr Babu Kanti Bhusan Sen and Babu Ganga Charan Chatterjee were respectively employed for acquiring the lands in connection with the two important projects—(1) Hajipur-Katihar extension of Tirhut State Railway, and (2) the South Bihar Railway which connects Gaya with Lakhisarai, where the chord and loop lines meet. For the South Bihar Railway 1,005 acres were acquired up to last year and Rs. 1,46,360 paid as compensation and 2,278 final reports prepared. The Land Acquisition Deputy Collector hoped to be able to complete the work within May. Babu Kanti Bhusan Sen acquired 2,236 acres, paid Rs. 2,36,155, and prepared 306 final reports. The Deputy Collector worked energetically and showed good progress.

126. Babu Suresh Chandra Chatterjee, Special Land Acquisition Deputy Collector in Bhagalpur, acquired 1,114 acres of land for the Bhagalpur section of the Hajipur-Katihar Railway, and made awards in 1,097 cases during the year under report; 98 cases have been referred to the Civil Court, but they have not yet been decided. The amounts of compensation of these reference cases, except those accepted under protest, were paid to the Civil Court after the close of the year for deposit pending decision of that Court. The final reports of all the cases have lately been submitted to the Board for confirmation.

The Special Deputy Collector is now engaged in acquiring lands for the temporary steam tramway from Pirpainti to Pathurghatta appertaining to the Kusi bridge on the Hajipur-Katihar Railway.

127. Babu Romesh Chandra Das was employed in acquiring land for the Purnea section of the Hajipur-Katihar Railway. The total area required in the district was acquired. This Deputy Collector made awards in 712 cases last year. As the Government orders for the temporary acquisition of 91 acres of land were received lately, the acquisition could not be completed within the year. It was, however, completed on the 6th April 1899. All other works connected with this section are said to have been finished.

128. Of the 159 cases on the file for disposal, 127 were pending from 1897-98, and 32 were new institutions; 35 cases were disposed of and 124 left pending at the close of 1898-99. The number of cases instituted decreased by 24, the decrease being most marked in Monghyr. The number of disposals also decreased by 19. In Monghyr alone there was a decrease of 15 disposals. "The reason for this," the Collector explains, "was that in preceding years the delivery of possession of separate estates under section 123 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1876 was being made

on the expiry of 60 days after confirmation of the partition by the Commissioner, but during the year under report, under Board's Circular No. 5 of February 1898, delivery of possession has been refused until the full amount of partition and stamp fees has been recovered from the proprietors."

In Monghyr the oldest case is pending for the last 12 years, viz., that of pargana Bisthazari. It is now at the stage of sections 78 and 116 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1876, the appeal having been disposed of by the Board of Revenue in March 1899. In Bhagalpur the oldest case on the file was instituted on the 30th August 1890. It was submitted to Commissioner for approval, but an objection under section 84 of the old Partition Act having been filed, a report was called for from the Collector which has been very recently received. The partition cases in the other districts of this Division call for no special comment.

129. Including 1,388 pending cases, the total number of cases for disposal last year was 5,087. Of these, 2,594 appertained to the district of Monghyr. The disposals numbered 3,745 (in Monghyr 1,777), and the year closed with 1,342 cases pending. Only 195 cases were pending over six months.

130. The number of transfers on which fees were paid, purporting to be under sections 12 and 13 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, was 759. Under the Board's Circular Order No. 6 of September 1896 the whole amount of fees paid (Rs. 1,045) was deposited in the treasury, and the landlords to whom they were payable were informed that the same would be held in deposit till applied for by them. During the past year Rs. 32 only were, however, paid to the landlords on their applications. The system does not appear to be working well.

131. The only revenue embankments in this Division are the Monghyr embankments in the Begusarai subdivision and the Belwa embankment in Purnea. There is nothing new to write about their management. The cost of maintenance realisable during the year amounted to Rs. 394, that is, Rs. 53 for the Sakri and Rs. 341 for the Monghyr embankment. Last year the Purnea District Board sent a requisition for the recovery of Rs. 80 spent on account of the Belwa embankment in constructing works to protect the bank from erosion. The Mahananda embankment in Malda and the Chandan embankment in the Banka subdivision of the district of Bhagalpur protect these two civil stations, and are managed by the District Boards. As regards the Mahananda embankment, Mr. Carter, the Superintendent of Works, remarked during his inspection thereof on the 1st of March that the river is showing an inclination to cut into the bank just opposite the circuit-house. He was, however, of opinion that erosion is not at present a cause of serious danger, but advised the preparation of records to show how the erosion has developed. This work is being done now under the supervision of the District Engineer.

132. The total demand, current and arrear, of Road and Public Works cesses was Rs. 10,27,613. The collections amounted to Rs. 8,85,193, and the balance was Rs. 1,42,420, or a percentage of 13.8 per cent. on the gross demand. A revaluation of the entire district of Purnea was sanctioned by Government in its No. 636T.F., dated the 14th October 1897. The work is in charge of Special Deputy Collector Babu Jagdam Sahai. Of the 2,764 estates to be valued, 1,146 only have been valued or otherwise disposed of. The number of tenures estimated to be valued is 26,586, of which 929 tenures only were valued. The total valuation of 1,146 estates already disposed of amounts to Rs. 2,07,486 against Rs. 1,44,273 of the last valuation, which shows a very large increase of 69.53 per cent. In Malda the revaluation of seven estates, which was sanctioned by Government Orders No. 456T.F., dated the 25th September 1897, and by the Board's No. 370A., of the 16th October 1897, was completed during the year under review, yielding an increase of Rs. 44 in the annual demand. The revaluation of 64 estates, including 7 separate accounts, sanction to which was obtained in Government Orders No. 5885R.P., of the 16th November 1898, has been taken in hand in the latter part of the year under report. Of these estates, only 14 have been valued up to the close of the year, leaving 50 to be yet revalued. A

net increase of Rs. 2,224 in the value of these 14 estates has been effected. All these estates have been valued under section 17 of the Cess Act.

133. The following figures show the number of money-orders issued and the amount covered by them on account of Government land revenue and cesses in the years 1896-97 to 1898-99 for the four regulation districts:—

The use of money-order system for the payment of Government demands and of rent by raiyats.

Year.	Number of money-orders.	Amount.
1	2	3
		Rs.
1896-97 ...	8,731	1,05,082
1897-98 ...	8,847	1,02,089
1898-99 ...	9,188	1,03,070

134. Mr. Marriott, the Collector of Monghyr, writes that the system has become very popular, and is specially advantageous to the poorer class of zamindars. He adds—

“As noticed in the previous years, for want of sufficient details and correct entries in the form of money-orders, incorrect entries were made in the registers. The evil is considerable, but nothing has yet been done to lessen it. A change in the form of money-orders as suggested in previous years is most desirable.”

135. Mr. Ritchie, the Collector of Bhagalpur, and Mr. J. N. Gupta, the Collector of Malda, write that the system is resorted to by small landholders who have but small sums of revenue and cesses to pay. The former reports that in 34 cases Rs. 114 were kept in revenue deposit, owing to incorrect or insufficient particulars in the money-order forms. He says—

“I still maintain the opinion I expressed last year that the form of revenue money-order is too complicated for ordinary comprehension, and very few forms are filled up exactly as they should be. It is only in those cases in which the mistakes and omissions are of a material character that the amounts are kept in revenue deposit; immaterial errors are overlooked, otherwise the system would, without a revision of the form, collapse by reason of the large number of money-orders that would have to be refused.”

136. Mr. O'Brien, the Collector of Purnea, says that many zamindars still pay their revenue direct into the treasury, fearing that any mistake in filling up the different columns of the money-order forms may cause trouble. He thinks that the fear is well founded, and that a more clearly printed form, and if possible simpler form, is desirable.

137. The subjoined table compares the figures for rent money-orders issued in favour of private zamindars during the year under report with those of the preceding year:—

Year.	Number of money-orders issued.	Amount.	Number of money-orders refused.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
897-98 ...	1,945*	50,861*	578	10,562
898-99 ...	1,759	43,997	491	6,686

* Revised figures.

In Monghyr there was an increase in both the number of money-orders issued and the amount covered by them. The other districts show a falling off. No particular reason has been assigned for the fluctuation. Mr. J. N. Gupta, Officiating Collector of Malda, states that it may be attributed to the less strained relation between landlords and tenants. Mr. Ritchie, the Collector of Bhagalpur, writes that the decrease may be due to the fact that last year having been a prosperous one, it may be presumed that the raiyats were generally in a position to meet the tahsildar's demand promptly, and were not under the necessity of remitting rent by postal orders. He adds that another cause may be that rent deposits in court were largely resorted to in the past year by the raiyats of certain estates in which the relations between landlord and tenants were unsatisfactory; such deposits may have to some extent diminished the number and amount of rent money-orders. As regards refusals to accept the fee, Mr. Ritchie says that the Postmaster has but one general explanation, viz., that the amounts remitted were alleged to be less than what the zamindars believed themselves to be entitled to.

138. Rupees 9,088 were advanced during the year, viz., Rs. 8,688 in Monghyr and Rs. 400 in the Sonthal Parganas. Advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act, XIX of 1883. The total amount outstanding on the 1st April 1898 was Rs. 16,632, which was raised to Rs. 25,720 by advances made last year. Of this sum, only Rs. 5,605 fell due during the year. The total collections amounted to Rs. 4,741, and Rs. 194 were remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 670, of which Rs. 528 are due from Monghyr and Rs. 142 from the Sonthal Parganas. The whole of the balances is covered by certificates. Rupees 797 were also realised during the year on account of interest.

A special allotment of Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned by the Board for the district of Bhagalpur in January 1897. Out of this grant a sum of Rs. 8,331 was advanced during 1896-97, of which Rs. 6,513 have been since recovered, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,818 outstanding on the 31st March 1899. A portion of this has been realised after the close of the year, and the rest is expected to be realised during the course of the current year.

Rupees 10,700 were advanced in 1897-98 in the district of the Sonthal Parganas under the modified rules published by Government under the Land Improvement Loans Act. Of this sum, Rs. 3,251 have been collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 7,449 at the close of 1898-89. This amount was not realisable or due during the year.

139. The aggregate amount advanced was Rs. 872, of which Rs. 776 were given in Monghyr and Rs. 96 in Bhagalpur. Advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XII of 1884. The opening balance on the 1st April 1898 was Rs. 42,006. With Rs. 872 advanced last year, the total came to Rs. 42,878, of which only Rs. 29,571 were actually due; Rs. 23,878 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,693. Rupees 2,225 were also realised as interest. Out of the total arrears of Rs. 5,693, Rs. 1,742 are due from Monghyr, Rs. 2,511 from Bhagalpur, Rs. 350 from Purnea, Rs. 25 from Malda, and Rs. 1,065 from the Sonthal Parganas. In Monghyr, Malda, and the Sonthal Parganas certificates have been filed for all the arrears. Rupees 317 on account of principal and Rs. 26 on account of interest have been recovered since the close of the year in the district of Monghyr. In Bhagalpur a small portion of the arrear appertains to the Banka and Supaul subdivisions. A part of it has been realised after the expiry of the year, and the rest is in process of recovery. But the greater portion of the arrear belongs to the Madhipura subdivision, and under the orders of the Board collections have been suspended on account of the failure of crops owing to floods. Of the total arrear of Rs. 350 due from Purnea, Rs. 276 represent the amount left unaccounted for by the late kanungo, Babu Banshi Dhar Prashad, which is being realised by yearly instalments from his sons. Certificates have been issued for the remainder, and Rs. 20 have since been realised.

140. The subjoined table shows the allotment and expenditure incurred on miscellaneous, sanitary, and agricultural works of improvement in Government estates in each district:—

Miscellaneous sanitary and agricultural improvements in Government estates.

DISTRICT.	AlLOTment.	Expenditure	Saving.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Monghyr	2,000	384	1,616
Bhagalpur	602	602	...
Purnea	1,200	541	659
Malda	1,000	608	392
Sonthal Parganas	17,820	14,582	3,238
Total	22,622	16,717	5,905

It will be seen that the full amount of the allotment was expended only in Bhagalpur. In Monghyr the large saving is due to the fact that the plans of a cutcherry, in the construction of which a considerable sum would have been expended, were not approved during the year. In Purnea Rs. 659 were allowed to lapse owing to the fact that the Collector in his winter tour found that two wells proposed to be sunk at Belwa Harinkhori and Bagmara were not necessary, as there was already a good water-supply in the neighbourhood. It was then too late to apply the money to any other purpose. In Malda Rs. 392 were left unexpended. Rupees 50 were allotted for clearing jungles in the khas mahal English Bazar, but on subsequent enquiry it was found that there was no necessity for this expenditure. Rupees 250 were provided for the repairs to Panchanandpur khas mahal office, but the repairs cost only Rs. 192. Rupees 400 were allotted for the re-excavation of the cemetery tank, but only Rs. 116 could be spent on the work, the tank being a very small one. The Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas writes that in his district Rs. 352 lapsed for want of sufficient time to draw bills during the year, and Rs. 2,886 were not spent by his subdivisional officers.

141. The following details of miscellaneous, sanitary, and agricultural improvements are furnished in accordance with the instructions contained in Government letter No. 3505, dated the 19th October 1894.

In Monghyr Rs. 114 were spent in repairing the tahsil offices, Rs. 54 in erecting boundary pillars, Rs. 82 in repairing the railings of the Kashtharni ghat at Monghyr, and Rs. 14 in preparing gabions for trees to be planted inside the fort. Rupees 120 were contributed to the charitable dispensary at Khagaur (Luckhiserai). In Bhagalpur Rs. 20 were spent in repairing roads, Rs. 290 in petty construction and repairs to tahsil cutcherries, Rs. 100 in boundary pillars, Rs. 160 in sinking wells, and Rs. 32 in sundry works. In Purnea Rs. 75 were spent on repairs to tahsil cutcherries at Belwa Harinkhori and Bagmara, Rs. 225 on a tank at Muradabag, Rs. 100 on a bandh (which will also serve as a road for the inhabitants of estate Belwa Harinkhori) at Makarchala village, Rs. 50 on improvements to the Rashna hat, Rs. 58 on planting trees, and Rs. 33 in making experiments with Naini Tal potatoes and wheat. In Malda Rs. 100 were spent in sinking wells in Panchanandpur and Jhaobona, Rs. 103 in deepening and repairing the tank near the Government cemetery in the khas mahal English Bazar, Rs. 200 in repairing roads in khas mahal Shergar, and Rs. 205 on sundry works. In the Sonthal Parganas Rs. 14,582 were spent, and the more important details are given below:—

Original works.

	Rs.
(1) Construction of bridges on Rajmahal-Tinpahar road and Godda-Samilong road	1,804
(2) Construction of a road from Barhait to Durgapur	316
(3) Ditto ditto Barhait to Tinpahar	490
(4) Iron girder bridge over the Morell stream	1,333
(5) Extension of Sahibganj town	1,470
	<hr/> 5,413

	Rs.
<i>Sanitary improvements.</i>	
Construction of three wells	321
<i>Miscellaneous improvements.</i>	
Improvement and furnishing of bungalows	1,421
<i>Repairs.</i>	
Repairs to roads	4,403

142. There is no Government forest in any district of this Division, except the Sonthal Parganas. I append copy of a note from the *Deputy Conservator of Forests*, which gives a brief account of the forest administration during 1898-99 in the Sonthal Parganas Forest Division. The Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Parganas, states that this officer has shown tact in dealing with the villagers, and that his management, considering the difficulties, has been successful. The recent orders of Government withdrawing the northern part of the Damin-i-koh from the Forest Department were not given effect to during the year.

* * * * *

XXIII.—RAILWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.

172. No new railway projects were sanctioned last year. The South Bihar Railway and the Hajipur-Katihar extension of the Tirhut State Railway made good progress. For the former Land Acquisition proceedings are nearly completed, and the Deputy Collector has prepared the final reports. For the latter in the districts of Purnea and Bhagalpur Land Acquisition work may be said to have been completed, and the Collector has submitted the final reports. In Monghyr also the acquisition of land is near completion. In Bhagalpur the Railway authorities have completed the embankment from the west of the district up to Bihpur, but from Bihpur to Katorea on the Kosi progress in earthwork has been slow for want of labour. In Purnea the earthwork is not completed.

173. With the completion of these two new railways, the district of Monghyr will be well provided for as regards rail communication, and the proposed line from Mansi northwards will still further connect all parts of the district with one another.

174. In Bhagalpur land is being acquired for a tramway from Pirpainti to the Kosi river for carrying stone.

175. No orders have yet been received regarding the construction of the Bhagalpur-Baidyanath-Ahmadpur Railway.

176. A line from Bhaptiahi *via* Supaul (Bhagalpur) to Mansi (Monghyr) with a branch through Madhipura to Murliganj was surveyed the year before last. The project is in abeyance for the present. A survey has been in progress for a line from Godagari through Malda to Katihar in Purnea.

177. In the Sonthal Parganas the Deputy Commissioner reports—

“The Deoghur tramway rolling-stock and engines are still defective.”

178. There was no case of obstruction during the year.

179. In the Monghyr district there were 37 accidents against 36 in the previous year. The number of deaths was 12 against 13. In Purnea there were nine accidents, in which three persons were killed.

180. There are no Government irrigation works in the Division. The *rabi*-growing lands are irrigated with well water, while for paddy lands the people have to depend on rainfall, except in Kharagpur, where the Darbhanga Raj maintains two kinds of works for irrigation purposes, viz., canals and gilandazi bunds, as reported in the previous year.

181. No large public works have been executed by the District Boards or the Local Government during the year.

XXIV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

182. The roads under the District Board were regularly repaired and kept in fair order. Eighty-four miles of metalled roads and 1,334 miles of unmetalled roads were maintained at the total cost of Rs. 30,632 and Rs. 56,378, respectively. The expenditure on village roads incurred by the several Local Boards amounted to Rs. 19,562. The above costs include the cost of repairs to bridges and repair of damages caused by the abnormally heavy floods of last year. The district is said to be, on the whole, well supplied with roads, but their condition is not all that can be desired.

Monghyr.

The Magistrate hopes that the recent changes in the executive staff of the District Board will mend the defects caused by lax supervision.

183. Eight hundred and seventeen miles of roads under the District Board and 904 miles of roads under the Local Boards were maintained at a cost of Rs. 74,099 and Rs. 15,121, respectively. In consequence of the necessity for accumulating a sufficient working balance after the depletion caused by the extensive famine operations carried on in the two preceding years, no original work of any importance was carried out during the year under report. The Magistrate bears testimony to the excellent state of repair of the district roads owing, he says, to the efficiency of the District Engineer, Mr. Robinson, and the supervision exercised by him.

Bhagalpur.

I cannot, however, say the same of the municipal roads and the one District Board road in the station.

184. In this district 1,986 miles of roads were maintained at a total cost of Rs. 54,239: of these, 1,185 miles were maintained by the Local Boards, costing Rs. 14,967. The raising of the Bysahat to Rohna road, which had been taken in hand in the preceding year, was completed during the year under report at a total cost of Rs. 2,707. It is reported to be a great convenience to the public, as it keeps up communication between Amour-Kusbathana and the Ganges-Darjeeling road throughout the year.

Purnea

The Araria civil station protection spurs were completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,017. This was paid by Government. Bunds were also constructed across the spill channels Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 9 on the left bank of the Kosi, at a cost of Rs. 3,724, to protect the Purnea district and roads. The money was raised by private subscriptions. The heavy flood of September 1898 damaged three out of four bunds constructed for the protection of the civil station of Araria against the encroachments of the Panar river, and an estimate for Rs. 1,020 has been sanctioned by Government.

185. The 92 district roads maintained by the District Board aggregate 539 miles in length. Of these 8 miles are metalled and 531 miles are unmetalled. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the district roads was Rs. 20,242. Two village roads aggregating $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length were repaired at a cost of Rs. 139. There are no Local Boards in this district. A subsidy of Rs. 958 was paid towards the maintenance of the steamer service between English Bazar and Rajmahal during the rainy season. There were 378 miles of river communications entered in the schedule of public works of this district. The navigation of the two principal rivers, the Kalindri and Mahananda, was improved at a cost of Rs. 161 by the removal of snags and other obstructions.

Malda.

186. The Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Carstairs, writes that all who know the district are agreed that our communications are at present inadequate, and the problem how they are to be improved is one of finance. Some improvements in bridges and culverts, two wells and two wire-rope ferries were made, costing in all Rs. 3,255. There was also an outlay of Rs. 5,413 on making or improving roads and bridges in the Government estate Damini-i-koh. The usual repairs were made, and Rs. 2,175 were spent from funds provided by the Raja Bahadur of Hetampur for repairs of roads in his estate.

Sonthal Parganas.

187. In the district of Monghyr about 24,000 fruit-bearing trees and a few timber trees were maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,709. In addition to these, 83 trees were purchased on the Sultanganj-Belhar road and 20 trees on the Gogri-Bhutkar road for Rs. 181.

Arboriculture.

In Bhagalpur 202 new trees were planted and 11,513 old trees on the roads maintained at a total cost of Rs. 1,692. The Local Boards spent Rs. 182 in planting and maintaining trees on the roads in their charge.

In the district of Purnea 322 trees were planted at a cost of Rs. 408, and three nursery gardens were maintained at a cost of Rs. 446; Rs. 351 were also spent in planting 323 trees on the Ganges and Darjeeling road. The number of established trees on the district roads was 5,072, on the Ganges and Darjeeling road 17,232, and on the Local Board roads 222, or 22,526 trees in all.

Rupees 58 were spent in the district of Malda in planting 39 trees and in supplying gabions. Twenty-five more trees were planted, but their cost was not paid during the year under report.

The number of new trees planted on road sides in the Sonthal Parganas was 777; but there was a loss of 233 trees during the year owing to the carelessness of those responsible for them. The number of old trees was 22,764 and 3,605 indigenous trees. On transplanting and nursing young trees and trimming old ones a sum of Rs. 190 was spent.

XXVI.—EDUCATION.

189. The table below gives the comparative statistics of educational institutions of all classes for the last two years:—

CLASS OF SCHOOLS.		1897-98.		1898-99.	
		Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
1		2	3	4	5
<i>Public Institutions.</i>					
Secondary	{ High English	20	3,981	22	4,368
	{ Middle " Vernacular	35	2,200	34	2,193
	{ " Vernacular	50	3,186	49	3,176
Primary	{ Upper Primary	268	11,628	273	11,901
	{ Lower " "	3,503	76,750	3,410	76,834
Special	...	8	366	11	614
Female	...	174	3,196	137	2,661
Total		4,056	101,296	3,936	101,643
<i>Private Institutions.</i>					
Advanced, teaching—					
Arabic or Persian ...		338	3,018	357	3,587
Sanskrit ...		144	1,361	141	1,289
Elementary, teaching vernacular only—					
(a) With 10 pupils and upwards		78	1,002	149	2,228
(b) With less than 10 pupils...		675	4,350	664	4,449
Teaching the Koran only		94	832	107	1,114
Other schools		16	325	14	340
Total		1,346	10,978	1,481	12,955
GRAND TOTAL		5,401	112,274	5,367	114,601

There was a net loss of 34 schools, but a net gain of 2,327 pupils.

190. The number of secondary schools remained the same, but the number of pupils in them increased from 9,456 to 9,736, or by 280. High English schools show an increase of 387 pupils and middle English and middle vernacular schools show a decrease of 97 and 10 pupils, respectively.

191. Primary schools show a loss of 86 in their number, but a gain of 457 pupils. Upper primary schools increased by 7 and the pupils by 373. Lower primary schools decreased by 93, with an increase of 84 pupils. The loss in lower primary schools is, to a certain extent, explained by the increase in elementary schools with 10 pupils and upwards in Monghyr, Purnea, and Malda, which could not be made up by the gain both in schools and pupils in Bhagalpur and the Sonthal Parganas.

192. Under the head of Special schools there was a gain of 3 schools with 148 pupils.

193. Female education shows a further loss of 37 schools and 535 pupils, which is shared by all districts, except the Sonthal Parganas, which shows a gain of 4 schools with 104 pupils. The decrease is due to the rates of rewards being cut down in Monghyr and Bhagalpur, and to the difficulty in attending a centre of examination away from home experienced by Hindu and Muhammadan girls, who form the majority of the female pupils. This decrease is a serious matter, and female education still requires to be encouraged, as parents have not yet realised the full advantages to be derived from it as they have done in the case of boys. The number of girls in boys' schools increased from 2,394 to 2,455, or by 61. The decrease in Monghyr is thus explained by the Magistrate, Mr. Marriott—

"The loss of 30 girls' pathshalas and 422 pupils has been the result of our past year's action noticed in detail in the last year's report, namely, the reduction under financial pressure of the rates for capitation allowance and the abolition of the prizes to the girls—*saris, kurtas, bangles, &c.*"

Mr. Ritchie, Magistrate of Bhagalpur, writes—

"The only middle vernacular school for girls has ceased to exist consequent on the withdrawal of Government aid for its repeated failure as a middle school and its relegation to the class of primary schools."

On the general subject of female education, Mr. Ritchie says—

"Female education is not popular, I regret to report, and, instead of gaining ground, there has been a falling off both in the present and past years."

He adds—

"The decrease of 17 pupils in indigenous girls' schools took place in the zenana mission."

The Magistrate has been requested to see that officers on tour pay attention to this subject.

194. Two hundred and forty-one boys were sent up from this Division for the last Entrance Examination, of whom 113, or 46·8 per cent., passed against 58·3 in the preceding year. Of the Government zilla schools, those at Bhagalpur, Malda, and Dumka did remarkably well, Bhagalpur passing 18 out of 20, a very brilliant record, Malda 4 out of 5, and Dumka all 5 in the first division.

195. Of the 56 candidates who appeared at the middle English scholarship examination from 23 middle English schools, 33 passed, 31 obtaining middle English and the rest middle vernacular certificates. The percentage of success of schools fell from 90·4 to 78·2 and of candidates from 72·1 to 58·9.

196. Forty-five schools and 161 candidates competed for the middle vernacular scholarships. Thirty-three schools and 101 candidates were successful. The percentage of success of schools and candidates rose from 75 and 58·1 to 86·6 and 62·7, respectively.

197. At the upper primary scholarship examination 520 candidates, including 25 girls, appeared from 206 schools, and 289 candidates, including 23 girls, were successful from 143 schools. Besides, 23 private students passed out of 50, who presented themselves for examination.

198. One thousand and eighty lower primary schools sent up 3,638 candidates for examination, including 111 girls, and 2,348 candidates, including 103 girls, passed from 870 schools. Besides these, 73 private candidates out of 98, who presented themselves for examination, were successful.

199. The number of Muhammadan pupils in all classes of schools decreased from 24,656 to 24,096, or by 560 pupils. The percentage of Muhammadan pupils to total school population was 21·02 against 21·9 in the preceding year.

200. The number of pupils of the aboriginal races decreased from 6,452 to 6,304, or by 148 pupils. There was a decrease of 21 in Malda and 264 in the Sonthal Parganas, and an increase of 111 in Monghyr, of 5 in Bhagalpur and of 21 in Purnea. The Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Parganas thus writes regarding the education of the aboriginal races in that district:—

"There were 248 schools for educating aboriginal children against 237 of the preceding year. Of these 248 schools, 140 were stipendiary against 133 of the previous year. There were 5,637 aboriginal pupils against 5,901 of the preceding year, showing a decrease of 264 pupils. This decrease is confined to Dumka and Pakour subdivisions. The loss of pupils in the Dumka subdivision is due to frequent changes in the Sonthal inspecting officers in Hendue Circle, in the Pakour Circle to the negligence of Munshi John Chand Ray, Sonthal Sub-Inspector of Pakour, whose services have since been dispensed with. Of the 5,634 aboriginal pupils, 5,448 against 5,717 were Sonthals, 147 against 129 Paharias, 24 against 34 Dhangars, 17 against 18 Mahulis, and 1 against 3 Kols, showing a decrease in the number of all aboriginal races except Paharias."

201. Out of the special Sonthal education grant of Rs. 7,500, Rs. 7,497 were spent during the year, and bills for Rs. 1,166 remained unpaid for want of funds.

202. In this Division one Sonthal passed the middle English, 15 the middle vernacular, 48 the upper primary, and 145 the lower primary scholarship examination.

203. Regarding the moral training and discipline of the pupils, the Assistant Inspector of Schools writes:—

"Morality is, throughout the circle, left to the masters to inculcate in the course of the ordinary school instruction. Of course much depends on the teachers themselves and their tone of morality, but all the Deputy Inspectors report that this mode of moral instruction has proved satisfactory."

204. As regards physical training of the pupils, football and cricket continue to be played in all the high schools, and in some schools, principally in the Dumka and Purnea zilla schools, drill is regularly practised. In the middle and primary schools where they cannot afford the expense of gymnastic apparatus, football, and cricket gear, native games are played with interest and advantage.

The annual "Toynbee Memorial Sports" are growing more and more attractive and popular among the boys each year. Last time they were held in February during the Saraswati Puja holidays. About Rs. 300 were spent, mostly in prizes. The invested funds for this annual meet now exceeds Rs. 3,000.

XXVII.—DISPENSARIES AND HOSPITALS.

205. The following table gives the particulars of the dispensaries in this Division for the last two years:—

YEAR.	INCOME FROM—					EXPENDITURE.	TOTAL NUMBER TREATED.			Daily average number of in-patients.	Daily average number of out-patients.	Cost of diet per in-patient.	Ratio per cent. of the total number of out-door patients to population of the Division.
	Municipal grant.	District Board grant.	Government.	Private subscriptions, endowments, etc.	Total.		In-patients.	Out-patients.	Total.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1897	Rs. 20,005	Rs. 22,004	Rs. 6,044	Rs. 20,582	Rs. 78,235	Rs. 79,060	6,338	188,740	195,077	260'3	1,407'8	Rs. 4. P. 0 1 9	2'1
1898	15,680	10,244	5,009	31,448	72,454	72,073	4,180	180,970	194,150	200'8	1,402'0	0 1 6	2'2

206. As in the previous year, there were 12 dispensaries in this district; 5 of them receive in-patients and the remaining 7 treat out-door patients only. With the exception of the dispensaries at Kharagpur and Monghyr, all the dispensaries in the district are maintained by the District Board. The former is entirely maintained by the Darbhanga Raj and the latter by the Monghyr Municipality. The District Board, however, pays a monthly subscription of Rs. 130 for the

Monghyr dispensary. Besides these, the East Indian Railway continues to maintain an in-patient hospital at Jamalpur for railway servants. Out-door patients who have no concern with the railway are also treated there, the Jamalpur Municipality paying the cost of the medicine.

The Revd. J. Macphail has a dispensary for in-patients at Bamdeh in thana Chakui. He also sees out-patients at Chakai twice a week and once at Karangarh, for which he receives a monthly grant of Rs. 15 from the District Board for meeting the cost of medicine, &c.

The total number of patients treated was 69,841 against 71,633 in the previous year. The decrease in in-patients was very marked, and was caused, I presume, by the healthiness of the year.

207. The total number of dispensaries remained the same as in the year before, viz. 11. The number of patients treated was 48,595 against 46,271. The total income and expenditure were Rs. 14,930 and Rs. 16,329, respectively, against Rs. 15,879 and Rs. 16,627 in the previous year.

The Bhagalpur Leper Asylum is not under Government supervision, and no returns are made by it. It is a most useful institution maintained by the Nathnagar mission.

There is a large falling off in attendance at the Lady Dufferin Hospital, the number of patients treated last year being only 4,711 against 7,581 in 1897-98. I am calling for a report on the subject.

208. As in the previous year, there are only four dispensaries in this district, all of which, except Khagra, are aided by private subscriptions. A female Hospital Assistant is attached to the Purnea dispensary for the separate treatment of female patients. There is a separate ward of four beds for this purpose.

The Khagra Ward's Estate dispensary for out-patients is under the management of the officers of the Court of Wards. It is maintained by the estate aided by a contribution of Rs. 20 per month paid by the District Board. All other dispensaries, except this, treat both in- and out-door patients. In this unhealthy district certainly many more dispensaries are wanted.

209. The five dispensaries in Malda treated 28,009 patients against 28,135 in the previous year. There was a slight decrease in in-door patients due to the better health of the English Bazar Municipality.

The English Bazar dispensary is the only one in the district which receives both in-door and out-door patients. All others treat out-door patients only. The Chanchal dispensary was in charge of four medical officers in turn during the year. The changes have been far too many, and a native doctor was in charge for three months. The employment of a native doctor is, I believe, contrary to the agreement made with the proprietor of the Chanchal estate.

The Magistrate, Mr. J. N. Gupta, observes:—

"In my opinion there should be one or two more dispensaries in the district. I understand Nawabganj, which is probably the most important centre of commerce in the district, with a population of 74,620, has not got a dispensary. But the efforts of the District Board to have a few more dispensaries should to a large extent be supported by the charities of private zamindars and the other people to be benefited by the institutions."

210. To the eight public dispensaries in this district one was added at Pakour. This was provided by the liberality of Raja Sites Chandra Pande. There is now a dispensary at each subdivisional head-quarters, the outside dispensaries being two in the Damin-i-koh Government estate and one in the Sahebganj Municipality. The most prosperous is that at Dumka, the income whereof was increased by a contribution of Rs. 1,384 from Rai Sotabchand Nahar Bahadur, of Murshidabad, on account of the new female ward now being built, to be called after Sir Alexander Mackenzie. That at Rajmahal is the worst in the district, and that at Sahebganj the most efficient.

In-patients are now received at six dispensaries, and will soon be received at Pakour, leaving only the two Damin-i-koh dispensaries without accommodation for such patients.

The total number of patients treated in the nine public dispensaries was 32,513 against 31,080 in the previous year. Last year there were 667 in-patients.

Two new dispensaries—one at Madhupur and one at Asanboni—both owing their funds to private persons, are under construction.

Besides these, there were a number of mission dispensaries, the chief of which are at Benagoria (Scandinavian), Bahawa, Taljhari, and Godda (Church Missionary Society).

211. With the exception of the Sonthal Parganas district, there is room, I consider, for many more dispensaries in this Division, and the attention of local bodies and of rich private individuals will be drawn to this need. District and Subdivisional Officers and Chairmen of local bodies should also show more interest in them, and should pay more frequent visits to them than many do at present.

XXXI.—EMPLOYMENT OF MUHAMMADANS.

231. I give below figures showing the employment of Muhammadans during the last two years:—

Class of employment.	1897-98.		1898-99.	
	Total number of officers in each class.	Total number of Muham-madans.	Total number of officers in each class.	Total number of Muham-madans.
1	2	3	4	5
Gazetted officers above Rs. 100 ...	98	10	100	10
Ditto on salary of Rs. 100 and less.	6	2	17	5
Ministerial officers ...	830	170	814	161
Menials ...	1,305	523	1,345	533
Total ...	2,239	705	2,276	709

There has been a slight decrease in the number of ministerial officers in the districts of Bhagalpur, Purnea, and Malda, and, while the number of menials has slightly fallen off in Monghyr and the Sonthal Parganas, the total number of appointments, as also the number of Muhammadans employed, shows, however, an increase over the figures of the previous year.

232. The percentage of Muhammadans to others in Government service in this Division was 31.1, while the percentage of Muhammadans to the total population of the Division is 19.8. Having regard to the fact that the Muhammadans are in point of number as well as education generally inferior to the Hindus, the percentage of appointments held by them seems to be fair.

On this subject the Collector of Purnea writes—

“The Muhammadans had at least a fair share in Government employment. Their claims are always taken into consideration on vacancies occurring.”

Very few of the Muhammadans employed in this district are natives of it. They mostly come from other districts.

The Collector of Malda also states—

“I am afraid the backward state of education among the Muhammadan community will for a long time render it impossible to give Muhammadans a share in the public service proportionate to their numbers. In the whole staff of ministerial officers and apprentices there is only one Muhammadan who has passed the Entrance Examination.”

The Deputy Commissioner, Sonthal Parganas, writes—

“The Muhammadans had in the gazetted, ministerial and menial grades more than their proportionate share in Government employment, but mostly in the lower grades.”

XXXIII (b).—FAIRS.

251. The fairs held in the district of Monghyr are of minor importance and for the most part of a religious nature. The gatherings are temporary, and the largest gatherings were, as usual, at Kashtaharine ghat and Sitakund, Baribazar Ramlila maidan, and Gauri Sankar ghat in the town of Monghyr and at Simaria ghat. No fair is held with the object of improving commerce, agriculture or local manufacture. The usual sanitary measures were adopted, and there was no outbreak of any disease. No reliance can be placed on the figures giving the attendance, as last year's figures have merely been recapitulated.

252. The usual fair was held at Sultanganj on the Maghi Purnamashi day. The Tintanga *méla* was held under official patronage on the 25th February 1899 (full moon) and the two following days on the same site as in former years. Both as regards the collection of pilgrims and spectators and the number of shops, it was a greater success than any of its predecessors. The management, as previously, was in the hands of a Committee of local gentlemen of influence, supervised by the officer in charge of the khas mahals. About 8,000 to 10,000 people assembled on the busiest day. There was an agricultural show to which exhibits were sent from the experimental farms of Sibpur and Burdwan, from Bhagalpur Central Jail, and by neighbouring zamindars and raiyats of the Government estate Tintanga and its vicinity. The manures sent by the Government Agricultural Department were distributed gratis amongst *bonâ fide* cultivators. Prizes were given for agricultural exhibits. A few cattle were also exhibited by the raiyats. There were pony races, villages sports, fireworks, and other amusements, which amused the raiyats a good deal, and the objects of this *méla*, which are primarily to arouse agricultural interest in the raiyats of the estate, and secondly to cultivate pleasant relations with them, were fully realised. Rupees 358 were realised as subscription, mostly from the tenants of the Government estate. This, with Rs. 151, balance of the previous year, made up Rs. 509 at the disposal of the Committee. The entire amount was spent. The sanitary and police arrangements were satisfactory.

The Bausi Fair was as usual held in January, and was attended by about 50,000 persons. The Lachmipur Estate spent Rs. 450 for its improvement.

The annual fairs at Singheswar and Kabilas in Supaul were duly held.

253. The Khagra Fair commenced on the 15th January 1899 and lasted fully one month. The fair, when it was in full swing, was attended by about 25,000 to 30,000 people every day, a great increase over the preceding year. The Karagola *méla* commenced on the 25th February 1899 and lasted about 10 days. About 20,000 people attended daily. The Assistant Magistrate (Mr. Birley) was deputed to supervise the sanitary arrangements. An accidental fire took place by which some shops were burnt, with a considerable loss to the shopkeepers. There was no outbreak of any epidemic at any of these *mélas*.

254. The fair at Ramkeli near Gour was held in June, and at Chanchal in March. They were attended by 15,000 and 1,500 pilgrims, respectively.

255. In the Sonthal Parganas the fairs mentioned in the previous year's report were held. The figures supplied as to the number of persons who attended each have been merely guessed at, being in most cases the same as given in the previous year. They have little value.

Besides the above several other unimportant fairs were held.

As reported last year, the Hijla *méla* at Dumka was held under the management of the Dumka Jubilee Institute, and there was a show of animals and industrial work for which prizes were awarded from the *méla* fund raised by subscriptions and donations. There were also sports and amusements.

The *mélas* at Deoghur are in connection with the temple of Baidyanath. The assemblages were greater than in the famine year 1897.

The sanitary precautions taken at all the fairs were sufficient. No disease broke out in any of them.

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XXXIV.—SOCIAL AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS.

262. There is hardly anything new to write under this head. The institutions remained the same, but most of them hardly showed any signs of activity during the past year. The Anjuman Hemayet Islam, of Monghyr, however, continued to do useful work. This institution was started in 1888 and depends for maintenance chiefly on donations and subscriptions, the minor sources of its income being a handful of rice from each household and the sale-proceeds of the hides of animals sacrificed on the occasions of religious festivals. It maintained 31 Muhammadan orphans and gave free education to 20 poor Muhammadan boys. It spent Rs. 2,131 mainly in supporting the orphans and in imparting free religious and moral education to the boys.

The Pashurakhini Sabha, of Monghyr, which was started in 1893, also continues to do good work. It took care of 66 animals, 32 being those remaining from last year. Of these, 32 died, the majority from natural causes, a cattle disease known as *bhaguha* having caused great havoc among them. The Sabha spent Rs. 921 for the support of the cattle.

The *Kayestha* Sabha of the Hindus in Monghyr continued to maintain seven widows and to educate five *Kayestha* boys at its expense. The Sabha's main aim is to curtail marriage expenses among the *Kayesthas* and to try and bring about temperate habits amongst people of their caste.

263. The Bhagalpur Landholders' Association discussed the draft rules under section 189 of the Bengal Tenancy Act and under section 121 of the new Partition Act and submitted their opinion to the Collector.

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XXXVII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

273. Very few remarks of a general nature are called for in the review of a year which in this Division has been almost entirely a fortunate one. Plague has so far not made its appearance in it, and steps have been taken in every district to stop its arrival if possible and to deal with cases should they unfortunately occur. There have been no scares in connection with it.

274. The extraordinary floods in Champaran and Muzaffarpur extended to the north of the Monghyr district and left scarcely standing ground for human beings and cattle. The patience, not to say apathy, of the villagers during that calamity was extraordinary. The paucity of boats in a tract subject to floods every year was very noticeable.

275. The Collector of Monghyr observes that the villages or tracts to which loans to agriculturists have once been given apply each year for further advances. The fact is, in the Collector's opinion, due not merely nor mainly to the fact that the interest is less heavy, but that Government holds a mortgage over the lands of the debtor for two years. No other person therefore will make advances to the Government debtors. The whole of the money advanced should, Mr. Marriott thinks, be levied, if possible, when the next good crop is obtained, or at the least some distinct advantage should accrue from early payment. But compulsory repayment is preferable, discretion being left to the district authorities to spread the payment over two or three crops. It is mistaken forbearance to spread repayment over two years. The raiyat spends what he has, and if one crop fails in two years, must come and ask for a further loan. As far as I have seen I am inclined to think that advances have been made too freely in this district, and that the matter requires attention.

276. The Magistrate of Bhagalpur has made no remark under this head.

277. In Purnea Mr. O'Brien writes that the record of the past year is satisfactory in most departments. Several long deferred settlements of Government estates have been brought within a measurable distance of completion. The long pending scheme of closing the eastern spill channel of the river Kosi is now an accomplished fact. The redemarcation of the Nipal boundary has been carried out. The proposal to increase the number of dispensaries in the district, which is inadequate, is taking a practical shape, and will, it is hoped, be carried into effect before long.

278. The Collector of Malda summarises his report by saying that the year under report was an exceptionally prosperous one, the rainfall was seasonable, the crops abundant, and prices of food-grains lower than the average. The health of the people was also very satisfactory, and the decrease in the mortality from epidemics, specially cholera, was quite notable. These remarks apply equally well to all the districts of the Division.

279. In the Sonthal Parganas the most important work of the year has been the settlement, which has generally been going on peacefully. In connection with this the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Carstairs, hopes that a systematic way will be worked out of dealing with alienations of *jote* lands, which have hitherto been dealt with somewhat casually. Mr. Carstairs also hopes for relief to himself by the transfer of the trial of Sessions cases elsewhere. The orders of the Government of India have been received.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE BURDWAN DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1898-99.**

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—(MISCELLANEOUS).

Calcutta, the 28th November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 8671.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Burdwan Division for the year 1898-99.

There were repeated, though unavoidable, changes in the tenure of the Commissionership during the year; but, on the other hand, there were no changes in the district charges, except in Hooghly, and in Burdwan where the Collector was absent for three months on privilege leave.

All the district offices and treasuries and all the subdivisional offices, save Kalna, were inspected by the Commissioners. It is observed, however, that the inspection of Hooghly occupied only two days, though the recent history of that office has been such as to justify a fuller examination. The tours of the District Officers were sufficient. That of the Collector of Midnapore extended over 155 days, a period necessitated by the extent of his charge, but involving a heavy strain on his energy, in view of the onerous nature of his ordinary work. The usual office inspections were made; but the treasury at Burdwan was examined once only by the Collector. The Subdivisional Officers were out on tour for a satisfactory period, save in Kalna; but it is not stated whether they made the customary inspection of their offices.

2. *Weather and Crops: Prices and material condition of the people: Public Health.*—Except in Howrah and Hooghly, the rainfall exceeded that of the previous year, though its distribution was scarcely satisfactory in some of the districts. Burdwan enjoyed the best rice crop of many years, and Birbhum also fared extremely well. In Bankura the main rice crop was very good, though the other crops were somewhat below the average, and some slight injury was caused by floods in June. The excessive rain of that month caused great damage in Midnapore where the crops were, on the whole, not so good. In Hooghly and Howrah they were quite satisfactory. The Division, as a whole, thus shared in the general agricultural prosperity of the year, and though prices were low, the cultivators were well off, while the labourers for the same reason fared very well. The poorer *bhadralok* are, however, reported to be making but slight efforts to emancipate themselves from the narrow restrictions in the choice of occupation which custom has imposed on them.

Coincident with the fruitfulness of the year, the public health improved very markedly, the comparative test afforded by the registration of deaths pointing to a great reduction in the mortality. In Midnapore alone cholera was prevalent, and the reported deaths from fever were fewer in all districts, except Howrah. Small-pox caused a relatively large number of deaths in Midnapore and Burdwan, and there was a considerable falling off in the number of vaccinations of the year.

3. *Emigration.*—The number of registered emigrants fell from 517 to 220, compared with a total of 4,510 in 1895-96 and 922 in 1896-97. There is no doubt that the low price and abundance of food-grains during the year caused a great reduction in the number of emigrants, both registered and free: and the provincial statistics obtained at Goalundo and Dhubri show that the numbers of the latter fell from 55,000 to 23,000. But even so the Commissioner is probably justified in asserting that the falling off in the number of registered emigrants is due in great part to the dislike on the part of cooly agents to the restrictions imposed on the moving of registered coolies and to their preference for the free emigration system. The question has, however, for some time been occupying the attention of the Government of India, with whom legislation is now pending.

4. *Manufactures and Mines: Trade and Commerce.*—For the Division the silk manufacture remained about constant, the decrease in the produce of

Burdwan, Birbhum and Hooghly being counterbalanced by an increase in Midnapore. The manufacture of *tasar*, however, appears to be decaying. The native cotton goods here, as elsewhere, are constantly losing ground before the cheap imported kinds. The majority of the jute mills failed to furnish information of their production, but it would appear that the export of gunny-bags increased slightly. The cotton mills suffered a period of depression which has not yet expired. The European factories for the production of paper, pottery and chemicals continued to flourish. Foreign competition, encouraged by the rise in the standard of living, is reported to have begun to affect the local production of domestic utensils here as in the Dacca Division. The output of coal is stated to have fallen from 2,000,000 to 1,600,000 tons, though the amount exported increased by over 300,000 tons. The statistics of imports and exports are notable chiefly in the items of rice (the export of which greatly increased) and sugar, which was largely imported owing to the poorness of the local crops in the excessively rainy season.

5. *Civil Justice*.—The total number of cases disposed of fell from 102,228 to 98,644, and the number of witnesses examined from 112,336 to 107,915. The proportion of witnesses in the higher Courts, detained more than two days, was 9·6 per cent., and in the lower Courts 17·3. The number of cases pending at the close of the year increased, despite the smaller number instituted during the year, from 16,310 to 16,471.

6. *Crime: Police: Criminal Justice*.—The experience of the Burdwan Division, in respect of the crime of the year, was the same as that of the rest of the Lower Provinces, for cognizable crimes fell off considerably in number, and complaints of non-cognizable offences rose. The District Magistrate of Howrah in explanation has reported:—"Just as hard times increase cognizable or real crime, so good times increase non-cognizable complaints, which are mostly either frivolous or arise from civil disputes." The decrease was shared in by each of the districts. Of the cases reported to the police, 59·9 per cent. ended in conviction, but only 13·3 per cent. of the otherwise instituted cognizable cases so terminated. The latter result is not explained, but it would indicate that process is issued far too freely and without proper examination of the complaint or consideration of the subject matter. Out of the total number of 20,505 cases, 710 were declared to be maliciously false, and prosecutions were instituted in 73 cases, in only 28 of which was a conviction secured. Compensation under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, was awarded in 88 cases. These figures vary very little from those of the previous year, having regard to the dependence of the use of this section on the idiosyncrasies of the Magistrates. The percentage of convictions in Sessions cases rose to 79·5 per cent. Of the 29,176 cases tried during the year, 11,944 were disposed of by non-stipendiary Magistrates, involving the examination of 1·3 witnesses in each case. It follows that the majority of these were petty cases, and the percentage of convictions at Jahanabad, amounting to 24·1, is therefore one which calls for explanation. The percentage for the whole of the divisional benches was 75·2. From the statements appended to the Commissioner's report it appears that out of a total number of 1,196 A cases disposed of by them, 938 were tried by the Serampore General Bench. Probably the greater portion of these were "Act V" cases; and if this is so, it seems doubtful whether the statements have been prepared on a uniform system. The attendance of the Honorary Magistrates cannot be considered satisfactory so long as they absented themselves without leave or notice on more than 20 per cent. of the days fixed, and the Jahanabad Bench was conspicuously bad in this respect also. The Stipendiary Magistrates appear to have got through their work promptly and without the unnecessary detention of witnesses.

The balance of fines outstanding remained much as in the previous year, excise cases being the great stumbling-block. As the convict in such cases is usually an agent, the Magistrate has either to impose a heavy fine out of all proportion to the circumstances of the accused, or see a small one gladly paid by the principal.

There were two serious offences brought home to the police in the year; but with these exceptions, they are reported to have conducted themselves satisfactorily on the whole. The town chaukidars have been discarded in

Serampore in favour of a body of town police modelled on that at Howrah, and the Magistrate of Hooghly is desirous of introducing the change at his headquarters. The wages offered to the town chaukidars, where competition with mill labour exists, are insufficient to attract good men so long as they are below the rates paid by the mills in the neighbourhood for cooly labour. Elsewhere town chaukidars are being introduced. The reorganisation of the village chaukidari system by the abolition of the "regulation" chaukidar and the appointment of daffadars received attention in all the districts; but in the absence of details in the Commissioner's report, it is difficult to learn the amount of progress made. About a third of the work remaining to be done in Ulubaria was completed during the year, a rate of progress which cannot be considered excessive; though it is very satisfactory that the former tenants of the *chakran* lands were retained in possession after settlement with the zamindars. The daffadars in Howrah are reported to show a tendency to abuse their position. This danger, which naturally arises from the novelty of the office, needs to be sharply repressed.

7. *Registration*.—The number of deeds registered decreased from 231,428 to 216,970, the reason assigned by the Commissioner being the good crops of the year. It is reported that greater care is now observed in the taking of thumb impressions.

8. *Land Revenue, etc.*—The total demand of land revenue was Rs. 84,62,884, and the total collected was Rs. 82,73,526, or 97·7 per cent. Turning to the specific branches, it appears that of the districts only in Midnapore (98·06) and Hooghly (98·96) was there a failure to collect the prescribed percentage in permanently-settled estates, though in Midnapore alone were the arrears of the previous year cleared off. Of the sums due from temporarily-settled estates, current and arrear, the collections were as follows:—

Burdwan	...	...	78·4	and	80·8	per cent.
Birbhum	...	...	100			
Bankura	...	...	47·8	"	90·9	"
Midnapore	...	...	75	"	90·5	"
Hooghly	...	...	68·6	"	66·1	"

Excluding Birbhum and Bankura (where the amounts are small), the results obtained are far from satisfactory, and it is hoped that the attention which the Board has directed to this matter may bear early fruit.

The demand from estates held direct by Government was petty in Bankura, but the percentages of collections were 22 and 24·6, respectively. The current collections in Midnapore were good (91·9 per cent.), but the results as regards arrears were poor (57·4 per cent.). In Hooghly the respective collections were 82 and 78·4 per cent., results inferior to those of last year.

The total demand for road-cess was Rs. 15,37,309, and the total collection Rs. 11,77,924, which is less than the current demand. In a year of good crops such a result was not to be expected. The current collections in Birbhum were good, but the arrear collections were poor. In the other districts the results were, for current and arrear demand, as follows:—

Bankura	...	...	82·8	and	65·4	per cent.
Burdwan	...	...	81·2	"	42·1	"
Midnapore	...	...	77·3	"	45·1	"
Hooghly	...	...	68·5	"	57·5	"

It cannot be said that these results are creditable to the certificate officers concerned except in Midnapore; and in Hooghly they are highly discreditable. In the last-named district it is alleged, in explanation, that co sharers are unwilling to pay, and that the result of certificates was abortive. The first reason would be conclusive did the law give to co-sharers any option in the matter, and the second is excellent to justify an alteration of the methods of collection, a subject which the Lieutenant-Governor is considering. It is desired that the Collector will give his very careful attention to the improvement of this branch of his office.

The expectation that the settlement of the ghatwali lands in Bankura would be completed in the year was not realised. In order to exhibit the working of the certificate offices, the Commissioner has prepared a statement

showing the average number of cases disposed of by each muharrir in the various districts. As noted by him, the numbers, which vary from 517 to 1,114, fall short of that fixed by the Board, but the reasons advanced by him for this failure are of general application, and fail to explain the greater success which was obtained in other Divisions. A more obvious explanation of the result is at hand in the fact that in only 1·9 per cent. of the cases was the property of the defaulters sold.

The total number of partition cases for disposal during the year was eight, of which seven were left pending. The land acquisition proceedings, though not so numerous as in the previous year, were of great importance in Burdwan and Midnapore, being in the latter district on behalf of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway extensions towards Orissa.

9. *Wards' and attached estates.*—Of these there were four, as in the previous year, the Burdwan Raj being the most important. The current demand was Rs. 46,11,530, and the total collections Rs. 44,74,889. Collections were fair in each estate. The unwieldy arrears in the Burdwan Raj accounts were not materially diminished, in spite of remissions amounting to Rs. 1,40,903, and, in the absence of separate figures for the khas mahals, it does not appear from the report how far the efforts made to carry out the orders of Government have been successful. No account is given of the works of improvement undertaken in the year on behalf of the proprietors of these estates.

10. *Excise: Stamps: Income-tax.*—The excise revenue increased under all heads from Rs. 13,52,065 to Rs. 14,84,659, or by 9·8 per cent., the incidence per head (on an assumed population of 7,700,000) being 3 annas 1 pie. On the other hand, there was a decrease common to all districts, save Burdwan, in the receipts from stamps, the falling off being equally shared by court-fees and non-judicial stamps and amounting on the whole as compared with last year of 3 per cent. The decrease in civil litigation, previously referred to, and the return of agricultural prosperity are the probable explanations. The income-tax demand increased by 5·1 per cent. to Rs. 2,79,548 of which Rs. 2,77,357 were collected, the results being markedly good in Burdwan.

11. *Communications.*—The most important work in progress is the Calcutta-Midnapore-Cuttack line, the completion of which depends on the progress made with the Rupnarayan bridge. The earlier stages of the Midnapore-Jherria line are also being hastened.

The roads in Midnapore were much damaged by floods, partial repairs costing Rs. 17,000. In the Sadar subdivision the Local Board, it would appear, are not paying sufficient attention to the maintenance of village roads. In Burdwan and Birbhum continued attention was given to tree-planting on the road sides.

12. *Education.*—There was a marked increase in the total number of pupils (male and female) in the year, though, as the Commissioner points out, when the figures for the last five years are compared, it appears rather in the light of a return from the abnormal conditions caused by the scarcity which began in 1896. The increase was shared by each class of schools. The total number of boys was 303,984, and of girls 18,290, and the total expenditure was Rs. 13,61,360, out of which 74·6 per cent. was derived from private sources. The proportion of boys who were at school, of those of an age to attend, was no less than 53·3 per cent.

13. *Hospitals and Dispensaries.*—The most notable feature in this year's report is the falling off in attendance and subscriptions. The former is due no doubt in part to the healthiness of the year, but no explanation has been offered of the latter, which amounted to Rs. 5,000, in spite of an increase of nearly Rs. 2,000 in the subscriptions of Midnapore. Larger contributions from public funds more than made up the deficiency; and the expenditure on the smaller number of patients was higher than last year.

14. *Local Self-Government Institutions.*—The criticisms of the District Officers on the working of the District Boards are favourable; but the Local Boards and Village Unions do not appear to be more successful in the Burdwan Division than elsewhere. In the Hooghly Municipalities the collection of rates was very poor, due, it is stated, to the inability of the executive to deal properly with their subordinates. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the

Commissioner will be able during the present year to effect an improvement. The Midnapore Municipality is reported to have spent too large a proportion of its income on secondary education.

15. *Conduct of Zamindars.*—Amongst the zamindars of whom favourable report has been made are those of Maliara, Ajodhya, Kunchiakol and Rajgram in Bankura, Raja Joti Prosad Gorga in Midnapore, Babu Siv Narayan Mukherjea of Uttarpura and Babu Peari Mohan Rai of Khanakul in Hooghly. This is but a scanty list for such a large Division, and it is observed, with great regret, that in Hooghly there are zamindars of whom each year unfavourable reports are received, and who forfeit by the harshness of their management any consideration to respect which they might otherwise deserve.

16. The following extracts from the report are published for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Extracts from the General Administration Report of the Burdwan Division for 1898-99.

III.—WEATHER AND CROPS.

20. The following table compares the average rainfall in each district during the past three years:—

DISTRICT.	RAINFALL IN INCHES IN—		
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4
Burdwan	49·11	60·33	65·45
Birbhum	42·21	49·89	70·00
Bankura	48·35	57·45	60·39
Midnapore	58·27	49·89	55·48
Hooghly	52·73	56·03	54·64
Howrah	52·45	52·37	50·88
Divisional average ...	50·52	54·32	59·47

As compared with the preceding year, the rainfall was more copious in all the districts of this Division, except Hooghly and Howrah, where it was less.

21. The weather during the year was chiefly characterized by an abundant and well-distributed rainfall. The rains broke about the usual time, and the crops generally were excellent. The winter rice harvest is acknowledged by general consent to have been better than it has been for many years, and the outturn of the *rabi* crops, taken as a whole, was also very good.

22. The rainfall was evenly distributed throughout the whole year, and it was more than enough for the standing crops. The outturn of the winter and the *bhadoi* crops was unusually good. Some slight damage was done to the crops in the Rampur Hât subdivision by excessive rain in October, but the outturn on the whole was not far short of a bumper one. The outturn of *rabi* was on the whole excellent. Sugarcane alone suffered considerably owing to excess of rain.

23. The rainfall of the year under report was on the whole seasonable and abundant. The rainfall in June, however, caused high floods almost all over the district, with the result that the houses with all their contents were swept away in some places and good arable land made barren and desolate by the deposit of sand. The *aman* or the winter rice crop, which forms the staple food of the population, succeeded very well, the yield having been a bumper one. *Rabi* crops are not extensively grown, but only in small patches close to the streams and bunds. Sugarcane, which is the principal winter crop of the district, suffered on account of the heavy floods in June, and yielded an outturn of 87 per cent. of a normal crop. Wheat, barley, gram, mustard and oil-seeds, which are sparingly cultivated, produced 87 per cent. only for want of rain in January and February. The outturn of the early paddy crops, locally called *telko* and *chali*, as also of the *aus*, was poor, owing to abnormally heavy rainfall in June. *Nuan* paddy, which is cultivated on the highlands in the Sadar subdivision, prospered well on account of the plentiful rain, and yielded almost a bumper crop. The unusually heavy rainfall in June affected cotton. Various millets grown by the Sonthals and the Bauris on the highlands yielded a poor outturn. Indigo does not prosper in a year of plentiful rainfall like the one under report, and the yield was affected by the heavy fall in August and September. The outturn was hardly over half of a normal crop.

24. The heavy rainfall in June last caused a disastrous flood, which resulted in great damage to crops, cattle and property in parts of the Sadar, Tamluk, and the Ghatal subdivisions. The river Cossye also rose to a level nearly four feet higher than that of any previously recorded flood. Considerable damage was accordingly done to the public roads and embankments. The injury caused to the crops was to a certain extent compensated for by the deposit of silt. Much of the rice destroyed was replanted, but where this was not possible owing to the depth of water *boro* rice was generally grown in the spring. The *bhadoi* and winter rice crops are reported to have been much injured by grasshoppers in the Sadar, the Contai, and the Ghatal subdivisions. In the Contai subdivision sugarcane also suffered to a certain extent.

25. The rainfall was seasonable and well distributed all over the district. Later on, however, the rainfall became irregular, and affected the standing paddy. Floods also damaged the crop in the Jahanabad subdivision. On the whole, however, the agricultural results of the year were satisfactory.

26. The distribution of rainfall was favourable to the crops, and although in Ulubaria it was well below the average, it was yet ample for the production of bumper crops. There was a sudden rise in the Damudar in the Ulubaria subdivision in July last, which caused breaches in the zamindari bunds on the right bank, but the extent of damage to the paddy crop was not great, though jute, *aus* paddy and sugarcane suffered slightly in parts of the Amta thana. The Subdivisional Officer of Ulubaria thinks that the fertility of the soil has increased by the deposit of silt, and that the health of the flooded tract has also improved, the filth and rubbish having been washed away.

IV.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

27. The following statement shows the number of deaths from different diseases during the year 1898, as compared with the preceding two years:—

DISTRICT.	Population.	Number of deaths from fever.			Number of deaths from cholera.			Number of deaths from bowel-complaints.		
		1896.	1897.	1898.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1896.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Burdwan ...	1,391,980	51,061	35,679	39,358	6,064	4,454	527	1,151	1,366	905
Birbhum ...	708,254	18,658	15,644	11,383	1,416	1,284	172	117	89	72
Bankura ...	1,009,668	21,912	17,517	15,681	2,667	3,537	213	...	550*	295
Midnapore ...	2,631,516	55,187	50,473	44,227	8,149	6,113	3,664	1,978	1,861	1,408
Hooghly ...	1,634,296	28,232	24,291	22,567	4,376	1,873	438	2,179	2,091	1,514
Howrah ...	763,625	10,643	11,347	11,909	5,043	1,943	902	3,711	3,035	3,130
Total ...	7,669,239	166,603	146,351	124,025	27,715	19,184	5,916	9,166	8,892	7,395

* This was included in the number of deaths from other causes returned in 1897.

DISTRICT.	Number of deaths from small-pox.			Number of deaths from other causes.			Total number of deaths.			Ratio of deaths per mille of population.		
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1896.	1897.	1898.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Burdwan ...	404	543	329	8,342	6,637	7,747	47,963	41,559	39,666	24'45	20'35	21'45
Birbhum ...	159	174	39	5,736	6,047	5,400	20,120	22,738	17,157	32'7	29'73	31'40
Bankura ...	232	68	9	7,746	6,846	5,908	32,567	34,540	30,104	30'43	26'66	18'79
Midnapore ...	1,044	976	403	14,889	14,726	14,278	80,637	74,549	64,040	30'6	28'3	24'3
Hooghly ...	51	234	60	5,391	4,510	4,816	40,159	32,990	29,395	38'9	31'0	26'45
Howrah ...	62	271	12	6,623	5,705	6,303	25,081	22,301	22,156	32'85	29'32	29'00
Total ...	2,022	2,294	852	47,000	47,361	44,540	252,606	223,782	192,718	22'8	20'1	23'7

Judging from the above figures, it will appear that all districts enjoyed better health last year, the number of deaths being 182,718 against 223,782 in 1897, and the rate of mortality falling from 29·1 to 23·7. Fever is returned as the cause of nearly 67 per cent. of the total deaths. The decrease is most marked in the case of Burdwan.

28. Deaths from cholera were not numerous in any month, but they reached 232 in May and 108 in April, while in January there were only three and none in November. Mr. C. Fisher, the late Magistrate, remarks:—"The past year has been a very healthy one, and the diminution in deaths and sickness throughout the district has been most marked. At the same time the birth-rate in most parts of the district has risen to some extent. There has been no serious epidemic, and the favourable weather and the heavy fall in prices have together had a most beneficial effect on the public health." It is reported that the practice of throwing unburnt or partially burnt dead bodies into the Bhagirathi in the Katwa subdivision has been stopped.

29. The public health of the district was very satisfactory during the year, and the Magistrate notes that the number of deaths during the period under review was the smallest within the last 12 years.

30. Deaths from cholera, fever, and bowel-complaints show a considerable falling off. There was little or no small-pox to speak of. Two deaths from bubonic plague were reported during the year, the disease having been imported from Calcutta in both cases.

31. Cholera prevailed throughout the year, causing the heaviest mortality in March, April and July. It broke out in an epidemic form in thana Nandigram, where it carried off 364 men. Small-pox prevailed badly in January, February and March. The localities which suffered most were Nandigram with 101 deaths, Daspur with 64 deaths, Contai with 39, and Panskura with 33 deaths during the year. Nevertheless the death-rate of the year shows a marked decrease.

32. The number of deaths from other causes was 4,816, against 4,810 in 1897. Only one case of plague was reported during the year.

33. There was a remarkable falling off in the number of deaths from cholera and small-pox. The mortality from fever was greater than in 1896 or 1897.

Bubonic plague made its appearance in the town of Howrah during the year. Two suspicious cases were reported, and in both the deceased caught the infection in Calcutta and came over to Howrah, where they died. Every precaution was adopted to arrest the progress of the disease.

34. The Burdwan Municipality spent Rs. 761 in extending the supply of filtered water to five mahallas, Rs. 85 in constructing an urinal, besides a sum, the exact amount of which has not been reported, in the construction of a plague hospital and segregation camp. The Kalna Municipality spent Rs. 210 in purchasing three iron tanks for the supply of river-water for drinking purposes, Rs. 159 in purchasing an iron night-soil cart, etc., Rs. 83 in clearing jungle, and Rs. 102 on a plague hospital. The Katwa Municipality spent Rs. 156 on a public latrine and Rs. 349 on a plague hospital. The Asansol Municipality spent Rs. 1,512 on two slaughter-houses, Rs. 1,474 on latrines, and Rs. 170 on water-carts.

The District Board of Burdwan spent Rs. 530 in completing the construction of three pucks and one kutch well, which had been commenced during the previous year. One new pucks and three kutch double ring-wells were constructed at a cost of Rs. 374 by the Board during the year. The District Board also spent Rs. 500 in cleaning three old tanks.

Sixteen tanks and four wells were excavated or re-excavated during the year by private individuals at a cost of Rs. 11,465.

35. Village sanitation in Birbhum has been reported to be unsatisfactory.

36. A great deal was done in the direction of village sanitation in the district of Bankura by the removal of cess-pools and manure heaps—a circumstance which probably had some effect in improving the healthiness of the year. The District Board of Bankura allotted Rs. 5,000 towards the improvement of the water-supply of the district, and with this sum 32 wells are being excavated in different parts of it.

37. The Magistrate of Midnapore simply reports that the general cleanliness of all the towns in the district was attended to. A few tanks were excavated by private individuals in the Serampore subdivision, as also by the District Board in the Sadar subdivision of Hooghly.

38. The sanitary works of importance carried out by the Howrah Municipality were the repairing of the sheds in the main yard of the Municipal office, the cementing of a raised reservoir, and the repairing and improving of certain public latrines and pound-sheds. A number of common or *busti* latrines were constructed by the owners of *bustis* at the instance of the Municipality. The Bally Municipality could not undertake any important sanitary works during the year. The District Board spent Rs. 412 in the improvement of water-supply and Rs. 323 in clearing jungle and opening out drains in the interior. Tube-wells were freely granted to villages along the Kana Nadi, the inhabitants depending entirely for their supply of water on that river, which, as its name indicates, has silted up.

39. The following table furnishes particulars as regards vaccination operations in the districts of this Division during the past three years:—

DISTRICT.	NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED.			Number of successful operations in 1898-99.	Percentage of successful operations to total number of persons vaccinated in 1898-99.
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Burdwan ...	42,380	38,933	31,986	31,484	98.4
Birbhum ...	26,222	19,636	18,319	18,250	99.62
Bankura ...	45,763	33,935	26,281	25,769	98.05
Midnapore ...	67,031	74,069	68,691	67,002	97.5
Hooghly ...	22,189	24,687	22,625	22,013	97.2
Howrah ...	25,067	22,219	20,444	19,369	94.7
Total ...	228,652	213,578	188,346	183,887	97.6

The number of persons vaccinated (188,346) is more than 25,000 behind the total for 1897-98. The decrease occurred in the districts of Burdwan, Bankura, and Hooghly, being due to the prevalence of the plague inoculation scare. The Muhammadans chiefly, and among the Hindus the Ugra Khetryas in the Katwa and in the Sadar subdivisions of Burdwan, still entertain prejudices against vaccination. Up-country men are also reported to have put forward religious objections. The decrease in Birbhum is attributed to the want of a whole-time vaccinator in the Suri Municipality, and the *Durga Puja*, which was celebrated late during the year, interrupted vaccination in the interior. In Midnapore the decrease is, in the opinion of the Magistrate, due to the stoppage of all vaccination work during the non-season on account of the plague riots. Out of 20,444 persons vaccinated in the district of Howrah, there were nearly 1,200 mill operatives; but this is a small proportion of the mill population, with whom, especially those from up country, vaccination is still unpopular, and the Magistrate reports that it is difficult to combat their prejudices and almost impossible to obtain any assistance from mill managers and other employers, who are highly afraid of thereby scaring away labourers.

40. In 24 localities in the Midnapore district calves were vaccinated in 206 cases, all of which proved successful. Out of 12,575 persons vaccinated and 103 re-vaccinated, the operations succeeded in 12,468 and 744 cases, respectively. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 201-4.

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

41. The satisfactory agricultural outturn of the year has resulted in considerable improvement in the condition of the people throughout the Division, with the exception of certain tracts in Bankura and Midnapore, which suffered severely from high floods.

42. The low prices which ruled during the year were very beneficial to the large class of public servants and others with fixed incomes, as well as to artisans, day-labourers, and petty traders, and were also useful in another way, namely, that they contributed to the replenishment of the stocks which had gone down at the close of 1896. To the agricultural classes this fall in prices meant a material diminution of their profits; and though the Magistrate of Midnapore notices that some difficulty was experienced by them in discharging their liabilities to their landlords, their general level of prosperity appears to have been maintained in most places. The wages of labour continued unaffected, and the labouring classes are reported to have found ample work, the population in the neighbourhood of the great centres of trade and industry being particularly well off in this respect. As evidence of the general prosperity of the year, the Magistrate of Bankura observes that there was less emigration to the tea-gardens, with a marked decrease both in offences against property and in the number of bonds and mortgages registered.

43. As regards the lower middle classes, who are finding the struggle for existence growing more and more severe every year, but in whose condition there was during the year some improvement by reason of the easier prices, the remarks made by me in the last divisional report hold good. There is hardly any hope of a permanent amelioration in their circumstances so long as new openings are not provided for them in manufactures, arts or trade by the adoption of a sound and thorough scheme of technical education. We must mention, however, the existence of a very strong disinclination, encouraged by the present educational system, on the part of the aforesaid class really to utilize such a scheme, which is opposed to all their traditions and training, and pressure in the way of hard times will have to be considerably increased before the *Bhadralok* will freely adopt commercial and professional pursuits other than law and medicine.

VI.—EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

44. As stated in the last divisional report, emigrants were registered in the districts of Burdwan, Bankura, and Midnapore only.

45. The subjoined table gives the number of emigrants registered in each district during the last two years :—

	FOR THE COLONIES.						FOR TEA DISTRICTS.					
	1897-98.			1898-99.			1897-98.			1898-99.		
	Coolies.	Dependants.	Total.	Coolies.	Dependants.	Total.	Coolies.	Dependants.	Total.	Coolies.	Dependants.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Burdwan	8	5	13	6	...	6
Birbhum
Bankura	113	91	204	64	24	78
Midnapore	155	145	300	100	36	136
Hooahly
Howrah
Total	276	241	517	160	60	220

The number of emigrants registered for tea-gardens shows a steady falling off, due, it is said, to the growing preference of employers for the free-emigration system.

46. The Magistrate of Burdwan states that this system has almost entirely superseded the other. No official record is kept of the number of free emigrants passing through the district, so that what this number actually was during the year cannot be specified. There were only 4 criminal cases connected with emigration during that period, against 14 in 1897-98, and only one resulted in conviction.

Burdwan	...	1	in the margin. Due attention was paid to the rules under Act I (B.C.) of 1889, and all the depôts were provided with an open railing on one side and <i>machans</i> in the sleeping sheds. A mat or blanket was provided for sleeping on and a second
Raniganj	...	10	
Asansol	...	8	
		14	
		—	

blanket for covering.

Almost all the depôts were visited either by the Superintendent of Emigration or his Personal Assistant, the District Magistrate, the Deputy Magistrate in charge of this Department, and the Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj. The Assistant Superintendent of Emigration for Raniganj and Asansol visited the depôts at these two places on an average twice a week, the inspection of sanitary arrangements and accommodation provided forming the chief object of the visits. The sanitation, the water-supply, and the food and clothing furnished were generally satisfactory in all the depôts.

47. The Magistrate of Birbhum reports that a large number of free emigrants passed through Rampur Hât to labour districts, but no reliable statistics are available. It is said that 225 coolies were accommodated in, and 215, including 5 dependants, despatched from, the rest-houses kept for free emigrants, but the figures do not appear to be exhaustive, as they do not include the number of coolies who did not halt at rest-houses. There were no regular coolie depôts in Birbhum, but four rest-houses were maintained for the temporary residence of coolies passing through the district. These were inspected from time to time, particular attention being paid to cleanliness, sanitation, food, and water-supply. A few cases of fraudulent recruitment were enquired into at the instance of the District Officers of Assam, and the results reported to them. The most important of these was one in which a young man and a girl were enticed away. No prosecution was instituted for want of evidence, but the agreement signed by the recruited coolies was cancelled under orders of the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

48. The decrease in the number of emigrants in Bankura is attributed to the easy prices which ruled all the year round, the result of an abundant harvest. The figures for registered emigration are, however, not of much value in view of the free-emigration system, which is largely prevalent. Due check was exercised over the registration of females, and complaints against the recruiting agency were rare. Free emigration, the Magistrate remarks, which cannot be properly controlled, is found to be open to abuses.

There were 5 rest houses in this district, both for registered and free emigrants. These were inspected from time to time, and all sanitary defects pointed out removed. Only two cases connected with emigration occurred. Of the 6 persons concerned, 4 were convicted. Both cases relate to the free-emigration system.

49. No explanation has been offered by the Magistrate of Midnapore of the falling off in the number of emigrants in that district, but there is little doubt that the preference given to free emigration is at the bottom of this decrease. No cases connected with emigration occurred in Midnapore during the year.

50. In Hooghly there were no depôts or rest-houses; coolies, however, pass through the district to the Naihati Railway Station *en route* to Assam and elsewhere. No coolies were registered in that district.

51. The same remark applies to Howrah, where only two cases under the Act occurred. In one a woman, by caste a Kolu (oil-presser), about 22 years of age, came to a *mêla* or fair in Bally. She was persuaded by a man to come to Calcutta, where she was kept in a coolie depôt, and was registered

under a fictitious name. The woman succeeded in giving intimation of her confinement to her brother, who effected her release. Warrants have been issued for the arrest of the accused. In the other case a complaint was also made to the Magistrate by a resident of Bally, whose son, a boy of 18, was registered as a coolie at Calcutta and sent to an Assam district. The boy wrote to his father of the circumstances under which he was registered. The Magistrate has reported the matter to the Deputy Commissioner, who has taken steps for his repatriation.

52. Irrespective of inter-district movements of labourers during the cold season, there was no regular registered immigration to this Division. As formerly reported, labourers in very large numbers came to this Division from the Sonthal Parganas, North-Western Provinces, Bihar and other places in quest of work and high wages in the mills, workshops, fields, as well as on the railways.

VII.—PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

53. There was a fall in the prices of wheat, common rice, gram and salt during the year, as compared with the figures of the two preceding years, the average price of common rice for the Division during the last fortnight of the year having been 16 seers 10 chitaks, against 10 seers 7 chitaks and 13 seers 9 chitaks during the corresponding period of 1896-97 and 1897-98.

Fluctuations in the price of wheat and gram are of minor importance, as these articles are not consumed by the people at large. Salt was dearer in Birbhum and Bankura, and cheaper in the remaining districts, the average price for this Division being 10 seers 8 chitaks, against 10 seers 5 chitaks in 1897-98.

54. Wages remained almost stationary. The Magistrate of Burdwan regards the rise in the rates of wages of skilled labour in that district as a sign of prosperity. The slight increase in the wages of common masons, common carpenters, coolies, women, boys, superior and common blacksmiths in Midnapore was due to the construction of railways in that district and the consequent increased demand.

VIII.—MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

55. The principal articles of manufacture in this Division are silk and tasar, jute, cotton, molasses, shell-lac, rope, iron, brass, bellmetal and hardware, indigo, paper, pottery, bonemeal, mats, and chemicals.

56. In Burdwan the quantity produced is estimated at 43,810 yards, against 53,905 in 1897, the value of the outturn being Rs. 41,467, against Rs. 53,288. The industry is carried on at Mankar, Memari, Panchkoola, Jagadabad, and two other villages in the Sadar subdivision, and in the villages of Bagtikari, Musthali, and Gheranash in the Katwa subdivision.

In Birbhum the total outturn was 35,000 yards, against 43,000 yards in 1897-98. The silk filatures at Gauntia, Katasar, Bhadrapur, and Kaithi continue to work under European management. In Bankura the manufacture of mulberry silk thread and cloth is carried on to some extent in the towns of Vishnupur and Sonamukhi, and in Birsingha, a village 8 miles north of the former. Silkworms are also reared on a limited scale in some places in the south and east of the district. The quantity of silk cocoons locally obtained being small, they are largely imported from Midnapore to meet the demand for local manufactures. Vishnupur retains its reputation of producing fine silks, which have secured the makers rewards and medals at different Exhibitions in Europe. The manufacture of *kutni*, a mixture of silk and cotton, has become extinct, as the demand for it, formerly existing in the North-Western Provinces, has almost ceased. 194 maunds 20 seers 2 chittaks of silk were reeled in the three factories at Nimitola, Guruli, and Mohepur in the Ghatal subdivision of Midnapore, against 131 maunds 34 seers in 1897-98, the value estimated being Rs. 85,653, against Rs. 53,042, the total quantity of silk manufactured being 15,560 lbs., against 10,548 lbs. in 1897-98. Silk fabrics of various kinds, such as damasked silk scraps, wrappers, handkerchiefs, *saries* and *dhoties*, etc., manufactured by the native weavers of Nimitola, Ghatal, Radhanagar, and Khirpai, are exported to Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and other places for sale.

In thana Daspur silk *dhoties* and Erandi cloth are manufactured, and find a rapid sale. These articles are also manufactured on a limited scale at Anandapur in the Sadar subdivision of the district. The silk industry in the Jahanabad subdivision of Hooghly is on the decline, and the fabrics produced by hand-looms cannot compete with the cheaper goods turned out by machinery.

Tasar is made in the Katwa subdivision from wild cocoons imported from the Sonthal Parganas and Orissa. The finished product is exported to Calcutta and thence to Madras, where it is in special request. The plague scare in Calcutta during the year is reported to have affected the trade injuriously. Tasar is manufactured at Karidha, Tantipara, and Birsingpur in Birbhum, being woven from cocoons imported from Manbhum, Singbhum, and the Sonthal Parganas. The industry is, however, on the wane. Tasar is also manufactured in most towns of Bankura, the chief centres of the industry being Bankura, Vishnupur, and Birsingpur. Tasar cocoons are reared in some parts of the Khatra, the Raipur, and the Bankura thanas, but the cocoons locally obtained being inadequate for the demands of local manufacturers, they are imported in considerable quantities from the districts of the Chota Nagpur Division. There was, however, hardly any demand for the tasar cloth from outside the district, the quantities turned out and exported being therefore very limited. Tasar fabrics are most extensively manufactured at Khirpai and Anandapur in the Sadar subdivision of Midnapore, and are also produced in the Jahanabad subdivision of Hooghly, but the industry is languishing.

57. There are several large jute and cotton mills in the districts of Hooghly and Howrah, in which gunny-bags, cotton fabrics, and cotton yarn are manufactured on an extensive scale.

Cotton cloth is manufactured in all the districts of the Division, but it is gradually being ousted from the market by cheap Manchester fabrics. Many weavers in Burdwan are reported to have adopted other occupations, and those of Bankura have been reduced to a wretched plight in consequence. Cotton cloths of various kinds made in the Midnapore Central Jail, and a fine material of cotton cloth for mosquito curtains, manufactured at Daspur, Chandrakona, and some parts of the Tamluk subdivision, find a rapid sale both locally and elsewhere. Fine cotton cloths with silk, silver and gold embroideries made at Nimtola in Midnapore are much liked by the people of the Bombay Presidency.

58. The manufacture of molasses from sugarcane is carried on in all the districts of the Division, but that from the juice of the date palm is produced mostly in the districts of Burdwan, Hooghly, and Howrah. Sugar is manufactured from cane molasses at Raipur and Kakhutia in Birbhum, but the production and consumption of this article declined in consequence of the cheapness of imported sugar of a superior quality. Molasses are largely manufactured in the Ulubaria subdivision and also in Midnapore, where the total quantity produced is estimated at 5,12,400 maunds, against 5,52,000 in 1897-98.

59. This article is manufactured in Birbhum and Bankura. The outturn fell from 605 to 555 maunds in the former, and from 10,658 to 9,489 maunds in the latter district, the marked decrease in Bankura being due to a slackness in the market. The total quantity of stick-lac imported into that district was 9,727 maunds, against 13,883 maunds in the previous year.

60. Rope is manufactured on a large scale in Hooghly and Howrah.

61. In the Barakar factory in Burdwan pig-iron, as well as pipes and various kinds of castings, are produced. There was an increase in the outturn and value as compared with the preceding year. There are four iron-works in Howrah.

62. These articles are manufactured in all the districts of this Division. In Burdwan the estimated outturn of the year was 8,394 maunds, valued at Rs. 3,37,613, against 8,974 maunds, valued at Rs. 3,18,575 in 1897. At Kanchannagore, a suburb of the town of Burdwan, knives and scissors to the value of Rs. 4,200 were manufactured, against Rs. 4,800 in 1897. In Bankura the manufacture of brass

and bell-metalware showed some briskness during the year. The utensils turned out in some of the towns of the district as well as those in Birbhum are highly prized in native households in different parts of Bengal, and are exported in considerable quantities to other districts. The industry is also largely carried on in the Sadar and the Jahanabad subdivisions of Hooghly, but it is reported to be declining owing to the plague scare and to some extent to some foreign competition. Brass jugs made in Tamluk and Midnapore are much prized and find a ready sale.

63. The quantity turned out increased in Bankura and Midnapore, viz.,
 Indigo. 142 maunds against 130 maunds in 1897-98 and
 1,047 maunds against 634 maunds, respectively, in
 1897-98. This industry is languishing in the former district, where most of the factories belong to Messrs. Gisborne and Company. In Burdwan and Birbhum the business is carried on in a very limited scale, the factories being small.

68. Mats are made in Jahanabad and in every subdivision of Midnapore, the best kinds of *maslands* being produced at Raghunathbuti in the Tamluk subdivision and Kisor Chuk in Ghatal.

69. Jute twists, fishing nets, iron safes, hukkas, and bamboo baskets are manufactured in large quantities in the district of Howrah. Ebony wood is worked in Jahanabad, and the pipes (*nalchas*) produced there find a ready sale in Calcutta. Trade in dried fish is carried on in the Contai subdivision on a large scale by boatmen from Aracan and other places, the quantity exported being 8,250 maunds against 7,500 maunds in 1897-98. Wooden furniture is largely manufactured at the Sadar station of Hooghly and exported to Calcutta.

70. The following table shows the outturn of some of the principal articles of manufacture. The statement is not complete, as many of the factories have not furnished the necessary statistics:—

District.	Articles.	OUTTURN IN—		
		1896-97.	1897-98.	1-98-99.
1	2	3	4	5
Burdwan	Indigo ... Mds.	58	69½	57½
	Pottery ... Rs.	4,68,398	5,68,549	6,09,357
	Ironware ... Tons	5,298	21,631	764,293
	Brass, bell-metal and hardware Mds.	9,813	8,974	8,394
	Cutlery ... Doz.	832	1,080	945
	Cotton cloths ... Yds.	450,415	602,650	577,610
	Silk cloths ... "	47,545	53,901	43,810
	Paper ... Tons.	2,500	2,541½	2,853
Birbhum	Aerated water ... Doz.	1,993	6,085	9,255
	Tasar ... Yds.	251,850	156,950	62,100
	Indigo ... Mds.	2	2	7
	Lac ... "	238	605	555
Bankura	Silk ... lbs.	40,080	43,000	35,000
	Indigo ... Mds.	138	130	112
Midnapore	Shellac ... "	4,200	10,655	9,459
	Raw silk ... Mds.	.....*	132 (Worth Rs. 53,042)	195 (Worth Rs. 85,653)
	Silk and tasar cocoons ... "	.....*	4,541 (Worth Rs. 1,00,960)	5,638 (Worth Rs. 1,14,896)
	Brass and bell-metalware ... "	.....*	38,887 (Worth Rs. 37,43,842)	36,698 (Worth Rs. 36,37,278)
	Silk and tasar fabrics ... "	.....*	5,275 (Worth Rs. 2,24,322)	6,331 (Worth Rs. 2,76,653)
	Cotton piece-goods ...	.....*	131,625 (Worth Rs. 63,868)	147,625 (Worth Rs. 74,568)
	Pottery ...	.....*	3,992,300 (Worth Rs. 1,48,675)	3,995,500 (Worth Rs. 1,49,800)

* The difference between these figures and those shown last year is due to revised figures having been furnished this year by Subdivisional Officers and the police. The figures now furnished appear to the Magistrate to be more accurate.

DISTRICT.	Articles.	OUTTURN IN—		
		1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5
Midnapore—con- cluded.	Mats ... ..	.....*	390,800 (Worth Rs. 2,70,800)	475,650 (Worth Rs. 1,07,658)
	Dry fish Mds.	.....*	2,000 (Worth Rs. 7,500)	1,100 (Worth Rs. 8,260)
	Molasses ... ..	.....	552,000 (Worth Rs. 22,08,000)	512,400 (Worth Rs. 23,05,800)
	Reed baskets ... ..	.....	5,000 (Worth Rs. 513)	6,000 (Worth Rs. 375)
	Indigo Mds.	869	624	1,047
Howrah	Brass and bell-metal ... Mds.	8,138	8,450	7,428
	Tassar and silk fabrics ...	Rs. 88,000 worth	Rs. 80,000 worth	106,300 yds.
	Silk skeins	" 16,725 "	" 280 "	.....
	Cotton cloth	" 1,43,220 "	" 1,43,200 "	425,000
	Coloured cloth (rangin) ...	" 28,000 "	" 29,000 "	40,600
	Rope Mds.	7,530	Not furnished	...
	Paper	11,620	Ditto	4,100
	Bricks and tiles	101,600,000	100,600,000	82,318,000
	Lemonade	3,650	3,700	3,400
	Flour mill	8,000	1,000	24,000
	Oil mill	7,000	10,000	2,000
	Surki mill	45,000	55,000	90,000
	Chicken work	5,000	7,000	35,104 pairs.
	Rasi works	Mds.	.....	260 mds.
	Gunny-bags, cloths and other articles, India Jute Mills ...	7,268 tons	10,200,000 bags	Not furnished by Manager.
	Champdany Jute Mills ...	28,768,000 yds.	28,768,000 yds.	Ditto.
	Hastings Jute Mills ...	28,000 tons	620,252 mds.	Ditto.
	Wellington Jute Mills ...	89,000 "	Not furnished	Ditto.
	Victoria Jute Mills ...	10,900 "	Ditto	Ditto.
	Bengal Spinning and Weaving Mills	872 "	Rs. 41,845-9 cloth " 8,39,454-5-6 yarn	77,892 yarn.
	Gondolpara Jute Mills ...	1,785,473 yds.	" 18,68,588 worth of bags and cloth.	16,84,114
	Bone Mills at Bally ... Tons	10,900	10,800	8,190
	Bone Mills at Magra ... "	286	286	12,000 mds.
	Chemical Works at Konnagore	Acids 12,000 cwt., other chemicals 10,000 cwt.	Not furnished	150 tons solid. 150 tons liquid.
Howrah	Cotton Mills in Ghosery ... Rs.	17,53,541	15,68,029	15,86,231
	Bowraah Cotton Mills ... "	26,38,874	26,69,493	22,15,166
	Ram Dyal Cotton Mills ... "	8,89,01	8,26,986	6,53,984
	Jute Mills in Howrah ... "	41,25,744	40,00,000	32,88,922
	Fort Gloster Jute Mill in Howrah	35,60,955	36,73,305	33,68,111
	Central Jute Mill in Howrah ...	.....	Not furnished	Not furnished.
	Sibpur Jute Mill in Howrah ...	37,98,117	60,06,281	45,10,017
	Ganges Jute Mill in Howrah ...	.....	2,46,907 cwt.	2,59,447 cwt.
	National Jute Mill	3,50,000	.....	.....
	Dally Paper Mills	13,20,680	11,88,960	14,01,446
	Burn & Co's Iron Works ...	20,00,000	24,00,000	24,00,000
	Albion Foundry	1,50,000	1,16,682	91,570
	Sibpur Iron Works ... ..	.....	42,824	32,520
	Shalimar Iron Works	2,00,000	5,00,000	5,00,000
	Shalimar Rope Works	3,13,727	3,46,763	3,51,788
	Ghosery Rope Works	6,34,000	4,92,382	5,16,800
	Newring Cotton Mills ... ..	.....	.....	3,28,478
	Victoria Cotton Mills ... ..	.....	4,99,000	3,73,880
	Surkhi ... ..	.....	7,625	7,625
	Oil ... ..	.....	2,10,486	2,12,963
	Wheat ... ..	.....	2,24,609	3,00,655
	Mats	8,000	9,000	9,000
	Curtain pieces	25,000	2,500	3,000
	Country paper	700	700	1,000
	Molasses	13,000	10,000	20,000
	Padlocks	11,000	12,000	12,000
	Hukkas	50,000	80,000	12,000

* The difference between these figures and those shown last year is due to revised figures having been furnished this year by Subdivisional Officer and the police. The figures now furnished appear to the Magistrate to be more accurate.

71. *Coal mines.*—Coal mines are worked in the districts of Burdwan and Bankura. The number of collieries in the Raniganj subdivision is very large,

and this industry has gained much importance. The output of coal decreased from 2,019,223 in 1897 to 1,615,908, though the persons employed rose from 24,473 to 25,739. No explanation of the increase and decrease has been supplied by the district officers. It is said that most of the European Coal Companies are prosperous, and some are paying very large dividends. Among the native concerns some are doing well, but many are handicapped for want of sufficient capital. Accidents were comparatively few, and are reported to be due principally to the carelessness of the sufferers themselves.

72. The white earth mine of Bhara as usual contributed greatly to the pottery works at Raniganj.

73. As reported in previous years, almost all the important trade centres and marts in this Division enjoy special facilities of export and import by rail, river, or canal. Birbhum has the advantage of the railway, and Burdwan, Hooghly, and Howrah are served both by river and rail. In Midnapore, which already enjoyed the benefit of the canal system and the rivers Hooghly, Rupnarain, and Silye, the opening of the Calcutta-Midnapore-Cuttack Extension of the Bengal-Nagpore Railway for goods traffic on the 17th December 1895 has further increased the means of transport. Bankura, which is traversed neither by rail nor navigable river, and where there are no canals, possesses, however, good roads by which its traffic is carted to East Indian Railway.

74. The principal articles of trade in this Division were—

Exports.

Rice, paddy, pulses, raw jute, gunny-bags, oilseeds, sugar, tobacco, coal, paper, hides, brass and bell-metal utensils, shell-lac, tassar, and silk.

Imports.

European piece-goods, gram and pulses, raw jute, gunny-bags, oilseeds, sugar, tobacco, salt, kerosine oil, coal and ghee.

75. The following table shows in a combined form the total traffic in 26 principal articles of merchandise imported into and exported from this Division by rail, steamer, and country boats:—

ARTICLES.	IMPORTS.							
	By rail.		By Nadia rivers.		By canal.		Total.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1. Rice	61,674	34,517	4,225	463	44,292	25,560	1,09,591	60,542
2. Paddy	900	5,490	9,272	00	4,31,165	50,091	4,31,334	50,501
3. Wheat	37,708	29,519	1,159	1,159	...	...	37,698	30,477
4. Gram and pulses	4,70,446	5,71,604	4,270	3,739	6,370	9,785	4,81,128	5,85,157
5. Other food-grains	8,237	9,393	72	3,479	...	...	8,359	13,305
6. Jute, raw	2,59,028	1,90,007	1,051	1,057	77,025	26,965	4,37,984	2,18,109
7. Gunny-bags	74,064	69,352	11	...	6,638	10,080	81,007	80,352
8. Linseed	2,981	38,066	596	345	96	...	3,072	29,411
9. Mustard seed	4,86,870	4,04,002	7,962	8,906	19,535	12,130	5,12,867	5,05,036
10. Tea, Indian	172	151	...	...	...	...	172	151
11. Cotton, raw	11,003	8,266	...	...	...	600	11,003	8,266
12. Silk, raw	4,210	4,571	...	...	...	...	4,210	4,571
13. Sugar, refined	12,227	24,016	406	270	5,070	3,169	18,365	27,436
14. Do., unrefined	2,64,044	2,95,159	5,936	2,976	17,738	39,535	2,78,666	3,47,370
15. Tobacco, manufactured	1,012	1,984	...	...	...	...	3,012	1,984
16. Do., unmanufactured	2,67,648	2,16,464	4,070	9,473	25,645	91,602	3,27,603	3,17,569
17. Indigo	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
18. Cotton piece-goods, European, in bales	87,536	88,500	...	19	8,010	6,376	95,603	95,954
19. Cotton piece-goods, European, in boxes	236	702	...	...	...	...	236	702
20. Cotton piece-goods, Indian, in bales	4,638	8,923	...	1	...	...	4,638	5,994
21. Cotton piece-goods, Indian, in boxes	16	16	...	...	...	...	16	16
22. Cotton twist, European	7,365	7,365	...	...	4,010	2,370	11,273	10,255
23. Ditto, Indian	35,460	42,018	...	...	...	...	35,460	42,018
24. Salt	6,10,945	5,46,171	...	...	1,30,975	1,30,970	6,60,920	6,60,841
25. Kerosine oil	1,10,285	1,25,700	...	100	1,00,445	96,620	2,10,730	2,24,380
26. Coal and coke	39,61,512	43,36,535	100	...	1,07,445	1,13,847	39,99,857	44,98,882
Total	96,70,236	72,06,682	36,036	31,928	19,44,967	6,42,380	77,59,345	78,80,930

ARTICLES.	EXPORTS.							
	By rail.		By Nadia rivers		By canal.		Total.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1. Rice	37,27,261	41,59,262	64,401	73,067	9,83,214	8,54,331	47,77,076	51,07,000
2. Paddy	9,43,123	7,21,349	23,741	11,386	10,90,721	11,00,124	20,64,004	18,38,850
3. Wheat	5,881	3,300	100	197	500	.....	6,481	3,487
4. Gram and pulses	37,230	33,321	990	54	1,350	553	39,582	34,428
5. Other food-grains	5,401	3,699	.....	265	11,755	.....	17,159	3,944
6. Jute, raw	9,047	7,815	163	.....	8,050	40,100	17,902	47,015
7. Gunny-bags	2,12,644	2,58,510	.....	200	.....	.....	2,12,844	2,58,710
8. Linseed	5,302	24,320	.....	200	590	.....	5,792	31,330
9. Mustard seed	6,300	10,335	130	.....	725	550	7,155	10,815
10. Tea, Indian ... ..	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
11. Cotton, raw	1,338	1,274	.....	.....	150	10	1,488	1,284
12. Silk, raw	2,235	1,530	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,235	1,539
13. Sugar, refined	200	749	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	749
14. Do., unrefined	17,150	11,378	1,336	802	41,027	8,120	59,519	20,311
15. Tobacco, manufactured	378	600	.....	50	.....	.....	378	602
16. Do., unmanufactured	10,608	7,054	359	43	24,785	28,865	35,343	32,082
17. Indigo	250	454	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	454
18. Cotton piece-goods, European, in bales	1,382	124	10	.....	.....	.....	1,398	124
19. Cotton piece-goods, European, in boxes ... ..	.....	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
20. Cotton piece-goods, Indian, in bales	531	1,932	.....	.....	.....	.....	531	1,932
21. Cotton piece-goods, Indian, in boxes	1	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	5
22. Cotton twist, European	29	49	.....	.....	.....	10	29	59
23. Ditto, Indian	11,333	8,045	.....	.....	.....	.....	11,333	8,045
24. Salt	13,249	21,292	235	4	50	.....	13,534	22,296
25. Kerosine oil	17,263	9,739	505	1	123	14	17,899	9,204
26. Coal and coke	5,41,34,377	6,33,22,400	8,115	10,300	735	.....	5,41,43,227	6,33,41,796
Total	5,91,03,403	6,87,07,913	1,00,290	1,06,405	27,71,667	20,03,717	6,29,35,440	7,08,20,125

The total imports by rail during the year amounted to 72,06,582 maunds, against an export of 7,08,20,125 maunds. The most considerable imports were in—gram and pulses, raw jute, mustard seed, sugar, tobacco, European piece-goods, salt, and kerosine oil, and the largest exports in rice, paddy, gunny-bags, and coal.

76. The total traffic by rail, rivers, and canals was—

	Mds.
Imported by rail (column 3)	72,06,582
Ditto rivers and canals (columns 5 and 7)	6,74,308
Total of imports	78,80,890
Exported by rail (column 11)	6,87,07,913
Ditto rivers and canals (columns 13 and 15)	21,12,212
Total of exports	7,08,20,125

The exports were thus enormously in advance of the imports, the difference being 6,29,39,235 maunds. This large increase is chiefly contributed by an increase of 5,88,42,914 maunds in the export of coal over the import of the same article in 1898-99. A comparison of the figures for the past two years shows that there was an increase both in exports and imports, the former rising from 6,20,35,440 maunds to 7,08,20,125 maunds, and the latter from 77,59,243 maunds to 78,80,890 maunds. The details are examined below. The Magistrates have not, except in a few instances, analysed the figures or explained the variations.

77. In imports the increase was marked under the heads of gram and pulses, sugar (refined and unrefined), linseed, and coal and coke, and moderate in the case of European piece-goods, Indian cotton twist, salt, and kerosine oil. As regards exports, the increase was marked in rice, gunny-bags, and coal and coke, while there was a considerable decrease in paddy and unrefined sugar, as will be seen from the figures noted in the margin.

	1897-98.	1898-99.
	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	47,77,076	51,07,000
Gunny-bags	2,12,644	2,58,710
Coal and coke	5,41,43,227	6,33,41,796
Paddy	20,64,084	18,38,850
Unrefined sugar	59,519	20,301

The increase in the export of rice was due to the general good harvest of the year in the districts of this Division. The increase as regards coal and coke is attributed by the

Magistrate of Burdwan principally to the increase in the quantities imported from other districts. Hooghly and Midnapore show a decrease under the head of paddy. In the case of the former district (2,13,036 maunds against 4,89,876 maunds) it is ascribed to the plague scare, while the falling off in Midnapore (9,88,319 maunds against 15,97,592 maunds) is reported to be the result of the diminished demand for the article by reason of the plentiful harvests of the year. The variations in respect of gunny-bags and unrefined sugar remain unexplained.

78. So far as the exports to Calcutta are concerned, there was an increase in the case of rice, wheat, gram and pulse, other food-grains, gunny-bags, linseed, mustard-seed, coal and coke. Two maunds of Indian tea were exported from Birbhum, against nil in 1897-98. A decrease occurred in all other articles shown in statement No. XI. As regards imports, there was an increase in European and Indian cotton twist, salt, kerosine oil and gunny-bags, and a decrease in the remaining articles shown in statement No. XII.

XI.—STATISTICAL ENQUIRIES.

80. The following statement shows the birth and the death-rate per mille as recorded in the districts of the Division during the last two calendar years:—

DISTRICT.	Birth-rate per mille.		Death-rate per mille.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5
Burdwan	33·12	32·92	29·85	21·45
Birbhum	40·16	40·07	29·73	21·49
Bankura	35·91	35·62	26·68	18·79
Midnapore	36·0	34·6	28·3	24·3
Hooghly	26·7	22·4	31·9	28·42
Howrah	36·63	34·02	29·32	29·00

It is remarkable that in all these districts, except Hooghly, while the birth-rate exceeded the death-rate, it still fell short of what it was in 1897. As in that year, there was during the period under review, a large preponderance of deaths over births in Hooghly. Of course that is owing to Hooghly being largely a manufacturing district, where the mill-hands come largely, alone leaving their families at home.

The death-rate shows a decrease in all the districts of the Division, being marked in Bankura, Burdwan, and Birbhum, where it was 18·79, 21·45, and 21·49 in 1898, against 26·68, 29·85, and 29·73 respectively in 1897—a fact which is chiefly due to the good health of the year, although bad registration may to a certain extent have operated.

81. The registration of births and deaths both in municipal and rural areas was carried out by the police, the statistics for the rural areas were obtained through village chaukidars, and in towns where the Compulsory Registration Act is in force, information was given by parties to the police direct. Much of the improvement in the reporting of vital statistics is due, the Magistrate of Howrah observes, to the punctual attendance of chaukidars at parade.

82. The Sanitary Inspectors, the inspecting staff of the Vaccination Department, the superior Police Officers, and the District and the Subdivisional Officers when on tour are reported to have tested, from time to time, the figures relating to births and deaths, and this system of examination is supposed to have greatly improved registration.

In Burdwan 37 persons were prosecuted for neglecting to report the occurrences of births and deaths, of whom one, who was a chaukidar, was sentenced to imprisonment and also dismissed from service, 34 were fined, and two were merely warned.

In Bankura 45 chaukidars were prosecuted for this offence. In Midnapore 64 persons were prosecuted, of whom 61 were fined and the remaining 3 merely warned. In Howrah 122 persons were prosecuted, all of whom were convicted and punished, one being sentenced to imprisonment. The Magistrates of Birbhum and Hooghly have furnished no information on the point.

83. The following table shows the number of births and deaths within the municipal areas in the several districts of the Division during the last two calendar years:—

DISTRICT.	Name of Municipality.	Population.	DEATHS REGISTERED.				BIRTHS REGISTERED.			
			1897.	1898.	Ratio per mille.		1897.	1898.	Ratio per mille.	
					1897.	1898.			1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Burdwan	Burdwan ...	34,477	1,179	905	34.19	26.85	586	608	16.98	17.31
	Raniganj ...	13,772	637	436	46.25	31.68	347	327	25.19	23.74
	Kalna ...	9,436	330	240	36.02	25.44	202	163	20.80	17.2
	Katwa ...	6,889	209	176	31.19	26.27	225	206	33.88	30.75
	Dainhat ...	5,144	101	181	31.29	35.18	177	165	33.40	30.18
	Asansol ...	11,737	255	194	21.7	16.5	258	353	21.5	30.07
	Total ...	81,265	2,780	2,092	34.2	27.3	1,780	1,670	22.01	23.01
Birbhum	Suri ...	7,481	253	163	33.82	21.69	296	534	39.67	44.05
Bankura	Bankura ...	16,743	370	352	20.22	18.78	657	537	35.05	28.0
	Vishnupur ...	18,190	420	400	23.58	22.48	624	681	34.58	37.44
	Sonamukhi ...	13,462	374	275	27.78	20.43	503	468	37.36	34.76
	Total ...	50,395	1,162	1,026	23.4	20.5	1,780	1,686	35.4	33.4
Midnapore	Midnapore ...	32,204	1,255	1,071	38.98	33.4	505	400	28.0	27.8
	Tamluk ...	6,612	180	130	27.2	19.6	190	175	28.7	26.4
	Ghatal ...	13,342	351	276	25.1	19.7	473	394	33.0	28.2
	Kharrar ...	10,088	201	144	19.9	14.2	380	305	37.6	30.2
	Chandrakona ...	11,869	380	297	33.6	26.2	314	301	27.7	26.6
	Khirpai ...	5,708	154	116	26.9	20.3	215	210	37.4	36.7
	Ramjibanpur ...	9,977	294	214	29.4	21.4	300	369	39.0	36.8
	Total ...	80,895	2,315	2,248	31.3	25.0	2,686	2,654	31.4	29.5
Hooghly	Hooghly-Chinsura ...	33,060	1,032	1,102	40.36	35.14	850	820	25.98	25.07
	Bansberia ...	6,788	276	288	40.68	42.45	223	102	32.87	25.88
	Sorampore ...	35,952	2,051	1,608	57.04	44.72	1,045	857	29.17	23.83
	Baidyabati ...	18,380	557	505	30.30	27.47	472	325	25.68	17.57
	Bhadreswar ...	9,030	634	339	55.39	35.10	156	168	16.18	17.42
	Kotrang ...	5,164	346	170	67.02	32.92	137	88	26.62	17.04
	Uttarpara ...	6,480	305	253	47.02	38.98	179	139	27.66	21.42
	Jaharabad ...	8,326	280	246	34.11	29.64	244	208	29.30	24.98
	Total ...	120,793	5,990	4,571	48.3	36.92	3,513	2,774	26.7	23.10
Howrah	Howrah ...	116,606	4,480	3,651	38.58	31.02	3,036	2,037	31.17	25.18
	Bally ...	10,700	480	577	20.28	33.35	364	359	21.67	21.10
	Total ...	133,306	4,978	4,408	37.3	33.06	3,400	2,396	29.3	21.7
GRAND TOTAL		480,136	17,999	14,648	37.02	30.1	14,050	12,014	28.9	27.9

84. There was increased mortality in Dainhat, Bansbaria, and Bally, while the remaining towns show a decrease in the death-rate, due chiefly to the almost total freedom from epidemic diseases of any kind during the year. In no town did the death-rate exceed 50 per mille. It is to be noticed that in all the riverside and manufacturing towns the death-rate exceeds the birth rate—a result of the custom noticed in speaking above of Hooghly district. Only in Bankura, where there are no manufactures, the town birth-rate exceeds that of death.

XIII.—CRIME.

90. The total number of cognizable cases reported during the year and investigated by the police fell from 23,648 in 1897 to 20,505 in 1898, while the number of non-cognizable cases rose from 20,979 to 21,547. Excluding offences against sanitary regulations, which have hardly any bearing on crime proper, the number of cognizable cases shows a decrease from 19,123 to 16,716, which is shared by all the districts of the Division, and which is undoubtedly due to the

good harvest of the year. In explanation of these fluctuations, Mr. Duke justly observes:—"Just as hard times increase cognizable or real crime, so good times increase non-cognizable complaints, which are mostly either frivolous or arise from civil disputes."

91. Of 20,505 cases instituted during the year and investigated by the police, 19,821 were cases reported at police-stations or taken up by police and 684 cases instituted on complaints or by Magistrates *suo motu* and referred to police for investigation. Of 20,212 cases disposed of coming under the former head 12,109, or 59·9 per cent., ended in convictions, while of 695 cases coming under the latter, 93, or 13·3 per cent., were successful.

92. Out of 2,691 false cases, 710 cases were declared to have been maliciously false, the rest being due to mistake of law or fact. The percentage of maliciously false cases to cases reported during the year and investigated by the police was 3·4, against 3·08 in 1897. There was an increase in the number of such cases in Burdwan and Midnapore, while the rest of the districts of this Division show a decrease. In Burdwan the majority of false cases consisted, as in 1897-98, of offences against property, and are reported to have originated in a desire for revenge. The increase in false cases in these districts is attributed to the greater prosperity of the people during the year, the good harvest providing them with the means of indulging their passion for litigation. In Midnapore most of the false cases occurred under the head of house-breaking and ordinary cattle theft. In one case, under section 304, Indian Penal Code, in this district, the complainant, a woman, who had, at the instigation of her zamindar's agents, falsely charged her neighbours with the murder of her husband, was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment, the death of the man having been proved by medical evidence to have been caused by pneumonia.

93. Out of 710 cases declared to be false, prosecutions were instituted in only 73 cases, or 10·3 per cent., against 11·4 per cent. in 1897. The percentage of prosecutions is low in all the districts in the Division, except Howrah, where prosecutions were instituted in 13 cases out of 52 declared maliciously false. It is satisfactory to note that in Birbhum convictions were obtained in all the three false cases in which prosecutions took place. The result was also fair in Bankura, where convictions were obtained in four cases out of nine. In Howrah, where prosecutions were instituted in 25 per cent. (the highest this year in this Division) of the cases declared maliciously false, convictions were obtained in only 5 cases out of 13.

The proportion of prosecutions in false cases resulting in conviction to the total number of such prosecutions instituted in the Division was 39·7 against 39 in 1897.

94. Compensation was awarded under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, in 88 cases as against 85 cases in 1897. The proportion of cases in which action was taken under the section to the total number of false cases was highest in Burdwan (21·8) and lowest in Bankura (2). This section is not as much resorted to in most districts as it should be.

95. The number of cases in which enquiry was refused by the police under section 157, Criminal Procedure Code, fell from 1,306 to 959. The decrease is common to all the districts in this Division except Howrah, which shows a slight increase. The police appear to have used the powers conferred by the above section with discretion, and to have refused enquiry only in cases in which no property or property of but small value and not easily identifiable was stolen, and in which no investigation was solicited by the complainant.

96. Out of 5,488 A Forms sent up, 2,804 were disposed of at the first hearing, the percentage being 51 against 36·55. The percentages of cases remanded once, twice and thrice were 18·2, 11·7 and 7·1, respectively, and the percentages of cases remanded six times or more were 1·8 and 2·2, respectively, the provincial percentages in 1897 being 2·3 and 3·5.

97. The result of trials before the Sessions Courts during the year shows steady improvement; 79·5 per cent. of the cases tried ending in conviction, against 68·7 and 60 per cent. in 1897 and 1896, respectively. The results were generally satisfactory throughout the Division. The improvement in Birbhum is ascribed by the Magistrate to the ability of the new Government Pleader and the energy of the investigating police officers.

98. The number of bad-livelihood cases instituted in the Division during the year was exactly the same as in 1897, viz. 482, although there were fluctuations in all the districts. These cases increased in Burdwan and Birbhum, while Bankura, Midnapore, Hooghly, and Howrah show a decrease. The increase in Birbhum is said to be due to the strict supervision by the police over persons who have no ostensible means of existence.

99. The number of applications for the grant or renewal of licenses received during the year was, including 823 refused, 13,278, against 13,927 in 1897. As in 1897-98, the number refused was lowest (3) in Midnapore. In Bankura and Burdwan 306 and 278 applications were refused. The total number of licenses granted or renewed during the year in the Division was 12,462, against 13,133 issued in 1897. The decrease is shared by all the districts except Hooghly and Howrah.

100. Four hundred and ninety-two persons were prosecuted during the year, against 192 in 1897. The increase is common to all the districts in the Division except Midnapore, where the number of prosecutions fell from 83 to 58 during the period under report. The increase is explained by the greater care taken by the Magistrates to see that all licenses were renewed. The punishment imposed consisted of fines except in two instances—one in Birbhum and the other in Midnapore. The facts of the former case have not been stated. The accused in the other is reported to have retained in his possession without license a gun which he had procured while committing a dacoity.

101. The fines imposed during the year amounted to Rs. 3,345-12, against Rs. 766-2 in 1897. Rewards to the extent of Rs. 222-8 were paid, against Rs. 57-8 in the preceding year.

102. Shops for the sale of arms and ammunition were duly inspected, and the results were satisfactory. The license of a petty dealer in fire-works in Midnapore was cancelled, and the licensee was fined for breach of the rules framed under the Explosives Act.

XV.—CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

122. The following table shows the attendance of Honorary Magistrates in the several districts of the Division during the year :—

DISTRICTS.	Number of times the Honorary Magistrates were asked to attend.	Number of times they actually attended.	NUMBER OF TIMES THEY WERE ABSENT—			Percentage of attend-ance to summons.	REMARKS.
			With leave or notice.	Without leave or notice.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Burdwan	2,274	1,592	220	662	882	61·3	
Birbhum	877	609	134	83	217	75·2	
Bankura	743	904	24	74	98	118·4	* Includes 239 volun-tary attendance.
Midnapore	3,337	2,106	522	709	1,231	63·1	
Hooghly	1,992	1,576	326	283	609	79·1	* Includes 183 volun-tary attendance.
Howrah	2,178	1,384	124	670	794	63·5	
Total for 1898	11,421	8,024	1,356	2,481	3,837	70·2	† Includes 432 volun-tary attendance.
Total for 1897	11,968	7,990	1,480	2,534	3,944	68·4	‡ Includes voluntary attendance.

On the whole the Bench Magistrates have given fair help, but, as usual, the Honorary Magistrates sitting singly continued to render material services by

the disposal of a large number of cases. The weak point of the system is that Honorary Magistrates of benches too often absent themselves without leave or notice to the no little inconvenience of their colleagues and the public. The Magistrate of Hooghly reports that the attendance of Honorary Magistrates at the Sadar and Serampore has been on the whole fair, that they continued to render valuable assistance to the stipendiary staff in administering criminal justice, but that the Jahanabad Bench did very little in this direction, the members being, moreover, very irregular in their attendance. In January 1899 the Magistrate, Mr. French, issued a warning on the most irregular of the Honorary Magistrates, and informed them that they would be called upon to resign if their attendance were not satisfactory during the next three months. The Magistrate of Howrah, Mr. Duke, observes:—"Any improvement in this direction cannot be expected until the Honorary Magistrates come to appreciate the importance of the duties they have been entrusted with."

XVI.—REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

124. The total number of sub-registry offices in this Division was the same during the year under report as it was in 1897-98, viz. 68.

125. The following statement shows the number of deeds registered in each district and the amount of receipts and expenditure during the past two years:—

DISTRICT.	1897-98.				1898-99.			
	Number of deeds registered.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Surplus credit to Government.	Number of deeds registered.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Surplus credit to Government.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Burdwan	43,649	49,929	27,004	22,935	40,070	46,623	28,430	20,194
Birbhum	25,603	27,483	14,645	12,838	22,364	25,479	13,306	12,213
Bankura	29,716	28,936	16,755	12,181	26,744	25,985	16,032	9,953
Midnapore	61,761	61,269	43,108	38,161	78,370	82,739	44,054	38,684
Hooghly	38,924	31,277	19,917	11,360	38,000	31,791	19,550	13,241
Howrah	23,630	28,575	14,884	13,751	21,432	25,887	13,883	12,004
Total	231,482	2,47,461	1,36,943	1,10,518	2,16,970	2,40,408	1,35,824	1,04,579

The total number of deeds registered during the year was 216,970, against 231,482 in the preceding year—a falling off which is shared by all the districts of the Division, being principally due to the good harvest of the year under report, which rendered the raising of money by sales or mortgages less necessary.

The receipts show a decrease in all the districts of the Division except Hooghly and Midnapore; so does the expenditure, except in Burdwan and Midnapore, but both the increase and the decrease are small. In Burdwan the increased expenditure was due to the payment, since July 1898, of salaries in addition to commission to the successor of the Special Sub-Registrar, Babu Nilratan Mukerjee, who being a retired Government servant was paid only by commission.

126. The system of identification by means of thumb-impressions has been improving. The Magistrate of Birbhum reports that the object of the thumb marks is now appreciated both by the registering officers and the public, and this work is no longer left to the clerks or menials.

127. A case of false personation occurred in the Serampore sub-registry office and two persons were convicted, of whom one is absconding.

XVII.—CONDITION OF THE DIVISION AS REGARDS LAND AND LAND
REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

130. The total number of estates exceeded that in 1897-98 by 24, the increase being chiefly due to the resumption of pharidari and thanadari chakran lands. The total demand in the several districts of the Division was Rs. 81,62,884, of which Rs. 82,73,526 were collected and Rs. 1,909 remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,87,449. The percentage of the total collections on the total demand fell slightly short of that obtained during 1897-98, being 97·7 against 97·8. The percentage of current collection on current demand in Burdwan, Birbhum, and Bankura was over the prescribed standard of 99. Hooghly shows a slight improvement, the percentage being 98·2 against 97·5 in 1897-98. In Midnapore there was no change in the percentage, which was the same as in 1897-98, viz. 95·3. The percentages in Midnapore and Hooghly would have reached nearly the prescribed standard had the sums of Rs. 12,911 and Rs. 6,850, received by remittance transfer receipts from other districts after the close of the year, been credited in the year's account.

131. Twenty-one petty Government estates, the management of which is difficult or unprofitable, owing to their scattered nature, were sold during the year, viz., 5 in Bankura, 2 in Midnapore, and 14 in Hooghly, comprising a total area of 21 acres. The annual demand realizable from these estates was Rs. 639, and the sale proceeds amounted to Rs. 2,730.

132. Out of 1,652 estates and shares of estates, which became liable to sale during the year for non-payment of Government dues, 211, or 12·7 per cent., were actually sold, against 183, or 8·7, sold in 1897-98. The percentage of sales on defaults increased in all the districts, except in Bankura, where it remained the same during the past two years. The highest percentage occurred in Burdwan, viz. 19·2, and the lowest in Midnapore, 5·6. These fluctuations have not been explained but are small.

133. The cess demand during the year under report was Rs. 12,17,466 against Rs. 12,01,191 in 1897-98, showing an increase of Rs. 16,275, contributed by the districts of Burdwan Bankura, and Midnapore, while there was a decrease in Birbhum and Hooghly. The increase in Burdwan is due to the increased assessment of coal mines, and that in Midnapore to the assessment of certain rent-free lands for the first time. No explanation has been furnished by the Collector of Bankura as to the increase in that district. The decrease in Birbhum and Hooghly was caused by the revision of assessments.

134. The total collections show an improvement in Burdwan and Midnapore and a falling off in Birbhum, Bankura, and Hooghly. The decrease in Birbhum is in some measure ascribable to the fact that arrears amounting to Rs. 1,800 due from three estates could not be recovered under the Certificate Procedure till after the expiry of the year under report. The diminution in Bankura is accounted for by the difficulties experienced in realizing cesses from petty rent-free tenures, while that in Hooghly is ascribable to the same causes as were mentioned in the Divisional Report for 1897-98, viz., abortive result of certificates, unwillingness of co-sharers to pay their respective dues, etc. The cesses collected in the Division during the year aggregated Rs. 11,98,344 against Rs. 11,89,263, the percentage of the balance on the gross demand being 21·5 against 21·2 in 1897-98.

135. The valuation and re-valuation of 12 revenue-paying estates in the district of Midnapore, which had escaped valuation and re-valuation at the last general re-valuation, were completed during the year under review, and the completion report was submitted to the Board in the latter part of March last.

136. Both the cesses were levied during the year at the maximum rate of one anna in the rupee.

137. No important settlement of Government estates was effected during the year. In the case of Char Nakchira in the Tamluk subdivision, in the district of Midnapore, the survey and record of rights under the Bengal Tenancy Act was begun in January 1898, and the attestation of records, except as regards the status of eight tenants, was completed in 1897-98. The boundary dispute with the Raja

Settlement.

of Mahisadal has been amicably settled with the sanction of the Board, and the draft records have been published.

138. The settlement of ghatwali lands in Bankura continued during the year. In the sarkari panchaki and bepanchaki ghats the rewriting of 5,000 kabuliyats and as many pattas conceding mukarrari rights and granting an allowance of 2 annas in the rupee was begun and completed, and necessary arrangements for the registration of the documents made, but on a review by Government of the question of concession, orders were passed on the 21st December 1898 sanctioning the rate of 4 annas in the rupee, and pattas and kabuliyats are being altered accordingly. Further khasras have been written out during the year in respect of 119 zamindari panchaki ghats, measuring 172,580 bighas; chitas of 18 mauzas, containing 15,000 bighas, which were discovered to have been left unwritten by the late Assistant Superintendent of Survey, have been written out, while rents have been fixed for 130,000 bighas of lands in tracts outside thanas Khatra and Chatua.

The issue of revised orders as to the rate of the concession to be granted to holders of lands in sarkari panchaki ghats, and the insufficiency of the maps in matters of interior detail as regards zamindari panchaki ghats, have prolonged the work of ghat settlements, which, however, the Settlement Officer expects to finish during the current year.

139. The number of certificates which remained pending from 1897-98 was 16,411, the number filed during the year under Public Demands Recovery Act. report was 40,126 (against 27,941 in 1897-98), showing an increase of 12,185, or 43 per cent. The increase occurred as regards all classes of demands save class IV, "Water-rates," which shows a slight decrease. Taking into account cases pending from 1897-98, the total number for disposal during the year was 56,567, of which 32,898, or 58 per cent, were disposed of, leaving 23,669 cases pending at the close of the year. There was an increase in the number of disposals in Birbhum, Bankura, and Hooghly, while Burdwan and Midnapore show a falling off. It is to be noted that the disposals were nowhere in excess of the institutions, and that in none of the districts of this Division was the rate of twelve hundred cases for each muharrir worked up to. That rate was fixed in analogy with the Civil Courts' practice, but there the parties themselves write out all processes, and again none of them, I might almost say, are so lengthy as the sale notices which have to be prepared by the certificate offices.

As compared with those in 1897-98, the institutions show an increase in all the districts of the Division. In Burdwan the increase is marked under class V, "Cesses," class VII, "All other demands under section 7," and class I, "Demands of all kinds under section 5." The increase under class I is attributed to the adoption of the auction system in the sale of petty Government estates, purchasers sometimes bidding more than they feel inclined afterwards to pay, thereby necessitating a resort to the certificate procedure; that in class V is due partly to arrear lists having been sent by the Cess Office to the Certificate Department on the expiration of each kist instead of at longer intervals as heretofore. The increase in class VII is the result of the imposition of fines in a large number of cases by the Land Registration Deputy Collector for non-registration of names, &c. In Birbhum the issue of certificates for the recovery of petty sums due from tenants on account of survey and settlement of the Mollarpur estates accounts for the increase. In Bankura it was owing to the influx during the latter part of the year of an unusually large number of cases belonging to the Cess Collection Office. In Midnapore the increase occurred under all the classes, notably under class V. In Hooghly the large increase under class V was chiefly due to the alteration in the kists in accordance with the Board's Circular No. 10 of October 1895, which has lately been given effect to, while that under class VII is due to collections having been commenced in connection with a big project, viz., the Rajapur Drainage Scheme.

Of the cases disposed of, recourse was had to the extreme measure of sale in 624 instances which is equivalent to a percentage of 1.9. The number of cases in which warrants were issued and the amounts paid without recourse to imprisonment fell from 208 to 132. Three persons were imprisoned, viz., 2 in Burdwan and 1 in Hooghly, for obstinately evading payments.

140. The remarks recorded by the District Officers as to the working of section 21, Act I of 1895, as amended by Act I of 1897, show that the provisions of this section have materially increased the difficulties in the way of the certificate procedure, but it is perhaps too soon to come to any conclusion whether it should be repealed or not. What evidence there is, however, rather leads in the direction of repeal.

141. There were four institutions during the year, viz., two in Midnapore and two in Hooghly, the three cases pending from the previous year in Burdwan making a total of seven. Of the three pending cases, two came up on appeal before me and have been remanded for procedure *de novo*. In the remaining case, in which instructions were solicited by the Collector as to the feasibility of the partition, the Board's orders were received after the close of the year and communicated to the Collector. In one of the two new cases in Midnapore the lands have been surveyed, and record-writing is in progress. For the other a record of rights was prepared in 1893 under Chapter X of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and the applicant has prayed for the adoption of that record in the butwara proceedings. Of the two cases in Hooghly, partition was allowed by Collector, but disallowed by me in appeal in one which was pending before the Board at the end of the year. In the other case, which was instituted under orders of the Civil Court, measurements are going on.

142. The total number of applications for mutation for disposal during the year was 5,644, of which 4,101 cases, or 72·6 per cent., were disposed of.

There was an increase in the number of applications filed in the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, and Bankura, while Midnapore and Hooghly show a decrease. The increase in Burdwan is reported to be due to the issue of a large number of notices under section 31 of the Act requiring co-sharing proprietors of estates to see that their respective interests are so registered that the total thereof shall complete full 16 annas. The increase in Birbhum is due to prompt measures taken in regard to certain proprietors who had neglected to register their names. No explanation has been furnished by the Collector of Bankura as to the cause of the increase in that district. The same remark applies to the decrease in Hooghly and Midnapore.

The total fees realized under section 64 of the Act in the several districts of this Division amounted to Rs. 604 and the cost incurred to Rs. 674. The amount of fines realized under sections 65 and 31 of the Act was Rs. 1,221 in Burdwan and Birbhum. Such fines were imposed on 328 persons in Midnapore.

The instructions contained in the Board's Circular order No. 3 of September 1891, dispensing with the necessity of recording evidence of possession in uncontested cases, are reported to have been observed in Burdwan, Birbhum, and Bankura. No information on the point has been received from Midnapore and Hooghly, but I understand the same procedure is adopted there. Nearly half the work in connection with the rewriting of Register D was completed in Burdwan. The rewriting of Registers BII and DII in Birbhum and Registers DI and DII in Bankura was also finished during the year.

In Midnapore Register DI was rewritten, and the rewriting of DII, which has been partially completed, will be resumed as soon as the budget for 1899-1900 is sanctioned. As regards the rewriting of Register D in Hooghly, only 1,073 estates were dealt with during the year. The division privately by co-sharers of the land revenue payable by the different interests has caused great difficulty here, which can only be surmounted by a separate enquiry into each case.

143. Proceedings for the acquisition of 222 acres of land for Government, Municipalities, District Boards, etc., costing Rs. 2,36,230, were confirmed by the Board during 1898-99. The annual abatement of Government revenue allowed on account of land acquired for Government amounted to Rs. 21-15-6, and a sum of Rs. 4,929, being the capitalized value of Government revenue, aggregating Rs. 155, abated on account of lands taken up for Municipalities, railways, etc., was paid to Government.

The average cost per acre of the land acquired was Rs 1,064, against Rs. 215 in 1897-98, the increase in the average cost being chiefly due to the acquisition of the lands required for the Howrah Water-works.

The important projects in which proceedings were confirmed by the Board during 1898-99 were—

- (1) The Debipur feeder road.
- (2) Head-work in connection with the Howrah Water-works.
- (3) The Begri to Hakola and the Bekihikona road.
- (4) Extension of Tarakeswar-Magra Steam Tramway.
- (5) Goods shed and goods siding at the Serampore Station.
- (6) The additional land required for bungalows at Sitarampore Railway Station.

The largest project for which lands were acquired during the year was that for the Calcutta-Midnapore-Cuttack-Sini extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

144. No embankment of importance was constructed in any of the districts of this Division. The D Schedule embankments in the district of Burdwan 75 miles in length were efficiently maintained. The first 9 miles of the left embankment of the Damodar, which were low, were raised during the year 3 feet above the highest flood mark. A portion of the zamindari embankment on the right bank of the Damodar in the village of Natu, thana Raina, was left intact in 1891 for the protection of the village from the direct rush of flood-water. Since the flood of 1897 the erosion of the bank at this place had been very rapid. Some protective spur works were constructed during the year, but these were considerably damaged by the floods, and a portion of the zamindari embankment was carried away. A chur was, however, formed in front of the village by the floods of the 15th September 1898, which, if it continues during the ensuing rainy season, will materially improve the state of the village. A short embankment, about 2,000 feet in length, was constructed some time ago at Berugram on the right bank of the Damodar in thana Jamalpur for the protection of the village from inundation. A portion of this, 800 feet in length, which had been washed away in July 1897, was reconstructed during the year and stood well. The embankment is reported to have been of great benefit to the village.

In Midnapore out of 22 embankments 19 are dealt with under the contract system and 3 under the Act, i.e., the actual cost of maintenance and repairs is annually charged to proprietors. Out of a total demand of Rs. 1,04,377 under both systems, Rs. 78,433 were realized, Rs. 845 remitted (Rs. 688 on account of khas mahal roads and canals and Rs. 57 as fictitious), leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 25,094. There are 324·4430 miles of D Schedule and 242·320 miles of Takavi embankments. On the former Rs. 76,394, or 235·17 per mile, and on the latter Rs. 60,766, or 251·03, were spent during the year, against Rs. 147·84 and Rs. 141·62 per mile, respectively, spent in 1897-98.

In Hooghly Rs. 868 were advanced during the year and Rs. 30,300 in the preceding year on account of the Kumrul sluice channel and the Madaria khal embankment, making a total of Rs. 31,168. Of this sum, Rs. 868 did not fall due during 1898-99. Rupees 9,064 were due from the Burdwan Raj estate, and will be adjusted under the agreement with the proprietor. Rupees 20,269 were collected up to March 1899, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 967.

In Howrah 37 miles of D Schedule embankments on the right and left banks of the river Damodar and the south banks of the Gaighatta and Baxi khal with 13 drainage and irrigation sluices and 3 inspection bungalows were maintained in good order at a cost of Rs. 3,632, against Rs. 3,154. The cost of maintaining the Takavi embankment amounted to Rs. 543.

A Takavi sluice at Nayachak, which was broken and closed some time ago, was reconstructed during the year at the cost, amounting to Rs. 1,718, of the owners and opened for purposes of irrigation.

145. There are three drainage schemes in this Division,—all in the district of Hooghly, viz., those of Dankuni, Howrah, and Rajapur. The amount advanced for the Dankuni scheme has been realized in full, and collections for the remaining two are now being made.

Drainage.

Out of the net realizable demand of Rs. 5,24,924, composed of Rs. 4,37,148, principal, and Rs. 87,776, interest accrued prior to capitalization, Rs. 3,11,432 were collected up to the end of March 1899, viz., 1,88,151 on account of principal, Rs. 85,683 on account of interest accrued prior to capitalization, and Rs. 37,598 on account of interest since accrued.

Howrah scheme.

The net realizable demand amounted to Rs. 14,51,174 apportioned among 7,675 groups of landholders, who are required to pay their share of the cost in instalments extending over 10 years. The total collections up to the end of March 1899 amounted to Rs. 2,98,695, viz., Rs. 1,81,892 on account of principal and Rs. 1,16,803 on account of interest.

Rajapur scheme.

Advances under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

146. A sum of Rs. 16,500 was allotted to this Division for advances under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts, and it was distributed amongst the several districts according to their requirements. Of this sum, Rs. 1,350 were advanced in the districts of Midnapore and Hooghly under the Land Improvement and Rs. 650 under the Agriculturists' Loans Acts in the latter district. A few applications for loans were received in other districts, but they were rejected for want of sufficient security.

The amount realizable was Rs. 54,949, of which Rs. 53 were remitted and Rs. 39,440 collected during the year, leaving at its close an outstanding balance of Rs. 15,456, which is being realized under the certificate procedure. Government can never expect to oust the local mahajan, and the local knowledge of Government officers can never be commensurate with the responsibility placed on them in regard to these advances save in a few isolated cases. The work is that of a land bank really.

147. As in previous years, the operations under the Act were limited to certain sections, chiefly to sections 12 to 15, 40, 69, 70, 80 and to Chapters X and XI of the Act.

Working of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

The number of applications under section 40 of the Act in Midnapore fell from 754 in 1897-98 to 327 during the year under report. The decrease is attributed to the fact that the rates of rent decreed in connection with the cases disposed of in 1897-98 and in the earlier part of 1898-99 were not as low as the raiyats wished. The low prices of rice which ruled during the year had also a deterring effect, because when the prices are high, the raiyats naturally like to convert the produce of their fields into cash, and prefer to pay the rent in money instead of grain.

XVIII.—WARDS' AND ATTACHED ESTATES.

148. The number of estates under the management of the Revenue authorities during the year under report was the same as in the preceding year, viz., 4, including the Sujamutha estate.

149. Raja Bun Behary Kapur continued to be the sole Manager of the great Burdwan Raj estate—by far the most important in the Division, and to manage it with his usual ability and success. He is aided by two Assistant Managers, who are reported to have worked satisfactorily. The greater portion of the estate is settled in patni and under other leases, a comparatively small part being under direct management. Except the two estates of Kujong in Cuttack and Sujamutha in Midnapore, which are more or less compact, all the khas mahals belonging to the Raj are very much scattered about, lying as they do in 7 districts and 17 subdivisions. These khas mahals are divided into 5 circles or groups, each under the supervision of a circle officer. The Manager was out in camp for 152 days during the year, and the Assistant Manager, Mr. Srinath Dutt, also spent a sufficient time on tour. The Manager's office as well as the Raj Treasury were inspected by my predecessor, Mr. Williams, in March last, who seems to have been satisfied with the result.

150. The demand due to Government on account of revenue and cesses was fully satisfied. The rent and cesses due to the superior landlords, however, were not paid in every instance, since in some cases these landlords failed to arrange to receive payment and their whereabouts could not be traced. The Collector reports that every effort was made by the Manager to carry out, as far as possible, the orders of Government to free the accounts of the Raj from fictitious and irrecoverable balances, but the result was not so satisfactory as could be desired. A steady reduction in these balances has been pressed on, but it must be remembered that the khas mahals of this estate are really the bad patnis which had defaulted and in consequence become khas.

151. The settlement of the ghatwali lands in the district of Bankura is in progress. More than half the number of pattas and kabuliyats which were exchanged between the Raj estate and the ghatwals were registered, but it was found necessary to re-write the kabuliyat on receipt of Government orders directing the grant of mukrari leases to the ghatwals at 4 annas' concession. The exchange of pattas and kabuliyats has accordingly been delayed. There has also been much delay in the settlement of the chaukidari-chakaran lands transferred to the Raj, and this is attributable partly to the non-attendance of the patnidars, and partly to the objections of the patnidars to give agreement for the lands of each village separately. The results of the execution of decrees are still bad, though there was some improvement in this matter during the year as compared with 1897-98. The religious and charitable institutions belonging to the Raj continued to be managed satisfactorily, and so did the Raj hospitals at Burdwan and Kalna, as well as the Burdwan Raj College. The experimental farm at Pala is under the supervision of the Assistant Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, the benefits of experimental operations conducted in this farm being fully taken advantage of by the raiyats in the neighbourhood.

152. The Maharaj Kumar's health was generally good throughout the year. He has lately passed the Entrance examination of the Calcutta University in the second division. He has acquired a competent knowledge of English, can ride, drive, is expert in the use of the bicycle, and is also very fond of foot-ball. He paid the usual visits to Darjeeling and Calcutta during the year.

153. The other two estates under the management of the Court of Wards are both in the district of Midnapore, and are now solvent and free from debt. The collections during the year were not, however, satisfactory, and this is attributed to the damage done to the crops by heavy floods and the low prices of paddy.

XIX—EXCISE.

154. The total number of shops of all kinds settled during the year was 3,819, against 3,211 and 3,007 in the two preceding years, the increase being most marked in the number of druggists' licenses.

The total excise revenue from all sources, exclusive of the cost price of opium, amounted to Rs. 14,84,659 against Rs. 13,52,065, showing a total increase of Rs. 1,32,594 from all heads of exciseable articles. The largest increase (Rs. 61,739) occurred under head "Pachwai," and is attributed to the settlement of the shops at enhanced rates; the good harvest of the year supplying the means not only of manufacturing the liquor, but of purchasing it. The increased revenue derived from other articles is due partly to the favourable settlement of the shops, and partly to the increased consumption of exciseable articles in consequence of the improved condition of the people.

155. Illicit distillation of liquor continues in all districts, though on a smaller scale. In Birbhum there was a falling off in the number of persons brought to trial during the year as compared with 1897-98, viz., 112 against 212. This, according to the Collector, is attributable to too many changes of officers and the discouragement caused to informers by the grant of insufficient rewards in excise cases. Out of the total fine of Rs. 1,884 imposed, only Rs. 1,301 was ordered to be paid as rewards. Mr. Jarbo, the Subdivisional Officer of Rampur Hât, acting on the amendment of the rules about the payment of rewards, *i.e.*, the substitution of the word "may" for "shall" in column 2, section XXII of the Excise Manual, did not pay even half as much

as the amount of fines imposed. Of course he erred on the wrong side, and will be instructed to make the payment of half the fine as the rule and not the exception. Of the total amount of rewards paid, Police officers obtained Rs. 820, Excise officers Rs. 384, and private persons, including informers, only Rs. 65. The trying Magistrates do not take much interest in encouraging informers, who constitute the only means of the detection of offences against the excise law.

156. The incidence of excise revenue per head of the population during the year was 3 annas 1 pies against 2 annas 9 pies in 1897-98.

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XXIII.—RAILWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.

168. The Calcutta-Cuttack section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was opened for traffic up to Kola. Pending the construction of the bridge over the Rupnarain, passengers between Calcutta and Kola are conveyed by steamers. The Howrah-Amta and the Howrah-Sheakhala lines, which, under orders of Government, are dealt with as light railways, have their entire lines opened for traffic.

The construction of the new extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway through the district of Midnapore was brought to a completion during the year under report, with the exception of a few bridges, which were not finished. Passenger traffic from Kharagpur to Sini was opened from 20th September 1898, and from Kharagpur to Kola and Kharagpur to Balasore on the 6th March 1899.

The construction of a new line from Kharagpur through Midnapore to Bankura (Midnapore-Jharia line), which was surveyed last year, was commenced during the latter part of the year. The portion from Kharagpur to Midnapore only has been taken up for the present, and the work is being pushed on.

The construction of the proposed lines from Burdwan to Katwa, and from the latter town to Hooghly *via* Kalna is still under consideration by the East Indian Railway. The projected line from Ahmadpur to Bhagalpur has not yet been taken in hand, and nothing further was heard of the scheme during the year.

169. The following table shows the accidents on railways resulting in casualties during the last two years:—

District.	PERSONS—				TRAINS—			
	Killed.		Wounded.		Accidents.		Obstructions.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Burdwan ...	43	39	83	82	70	66	...	2
Birbhum ...	12	3	2	3	2	6	...	...
Bankura ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Midnapore ...	4	5	7	13	...	1	1	1
Hooghly ...	19	8	13	9	13	7	7	8
Howrah ...	19	25	73	8	10	43	6	9
Total ...	96	80	126	65	95	123	14	15

The number of accidents resulting in loss of life on the East Indian Railway shows an increase. Most of these accidents are said to have taken place during shunting. The deceased themselves are reported to be responsible for the occurrences.

In Howrah the number of accidents rose from 10 to 43, and the number of persons killed increased by six. In one case a hackney carriage collided with a pilot engine at a level-crossing on the Grand Trunk Road near the Howrah salt gola and got smashed. The gate was under repairs, but there was no temporary barrier put up at the time, and the line was left open and unprotected.

A goods train on its arrival at Khana Junction was shunted into the siding and was ordered to be drawn out to the up line. While this was being done, another engine of a goods train came against signals and ran into it behind at the crossing of points, resulting in some wagons being derailed. The accident was due to reckless driving on the part of the driver. He was prosecuted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 30.

A gateman of a level-crossing gate at Burdwan was run over and killed. He had allowed a bullock cart to cross just after a goods train had passed, but the cart was run into by a passenger train. The cartman and bullocks escaped, but the gateman, who was pushing the cart from behind, was killed.

170. Besides the construction of minor works, the following important public works were carried out during the year at a cost noted against each:—

	Rs.
Construction of a country-spirit depôt at Raniganj	... 2,161
Ditto of a surface drain in the Burdwan Jail	... 841
Ditto of Debipur feeder road	... 3,107
Ditto of the residence of the Subdivisional Officer of Serampore	... 31,737

The District Board of Burdwan spent Rs. 1,476 in converting a portion of the circuit-house at Burdwan into a dâk bungalow, and Rs. 1,635 in converting the old Subdivisional Court-house at Katwa into an inspection bungalow.

XXIV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

171. As remarked in previous reports, this Division is fairly well off as regards communications, the only portions backward in this respect being the district of Bunkura and the subdivisions of Vishnupur and Jahanabad.

The East Indian Railway connects the district head-quarters of Howrah, Hooghly, and Burdwan, and the subdivisional head quarters of Serampore, Raniganj, and Rampur Hât. The Sadar station of the Birbhum district is within 11 miles of Saunthia, the nearest station on the loop line of the East Indian Railway, which runs through the district, connecting the most important trade centres.

The Midnapore district has been opened up by two new lines opened for passenger traffic during the year under report, viz., the Calcutta-Cuttack Section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway between Cuttack and Kola, a station in the Midnapore district, and the line from Sini to Kharagpur, also in the Midnapore district a branch of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

The provincial railways in the Hooghly district are the Tarakeswar branch of the East Indian Railway and the Bengal Provincial Railway. In the Howrah district there are the newly-opened Howrah-Amra and the Howrah-Sheakhalla Light Railways, the latter of which runs through a portion of Hooghly also.

A junction line from Hooghly to Naihati connects the East Indian with the Eastern Bengal Railway, and a branch line from Naihati to Azimganj connects the Birbhum district with Murshidabad.

The riparian tracts of the districts of Burdwan, Hooghly, and Howrah are served by a line of steamers, and the canal system serves the Midnapore district.

The railway projects in the Division under consideration are—

- (1) A line from Hooghly *via* Kalna to Katwa, and from thence to Burdwan, and
- (2) A chord line from Howrah to Burdwan.

172. The subjoined statement shows the length of the roads maintained by the District and Local Boards and the Municipalities in each district :—

DISTRICT.	Description of roads.	BY WHOM MAINTAINED.				REMARKS.
		District Board.	Local Board.	Municipality.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Burdwan ... {	Metalled ...	275½	...	52	327½	* Represent village roads.
	Unmetalled ...	246½	267½	40	554½	
	Total ...	522½	267½	92	881½	
Birbhum ... {	Metalled ...	126	...	14½	140½	
	Unmetalled ...	297½	27*	...	324½	
	Total ...	423½	27	14½	464½	
Bankura ... {	Metalled ...	220	21	28½	269½	
	Unmetalled ...	331	163	9½	443½	
	Total ...	551	124	38	713	
Midnapore ... {	Metalled ...	414	1	69	484	
	Unmetalled ...	273	333½	43½	650	
	Total ...	687	334½	112½	1,134	
Hooghly ... {	Metalled ...	71	...	...	71
	Unmetalled ...	423	...	...	423
	Total ...	494	...	...	494
Howrah ... {	Metalled ...	21	...	54	75	
	Unmetalled ...	61	261	5½	327½	
	Total ...	82	261	59½	402½	

173. In the Burdwan district, as reported last year, the Burdwan-Katwa Road has been neglected for some years past in consequence of a proposal to construct a railway at present under the consideration of the Government of India.

The roads in the Birbhum district are reported to have been in good order during the year under report.

As regards the existing roads in the Bankura and Hooghly districts, there is nothing particular to mention.

In Midnapore some important district roads were seriously damaged by the heavy floods which took place during the year, and the repairs are reported to have cost Rs. 17,000, though in one or two cases no attempt has yet been made to renew the roads washed away.

174. With regards to village roads, Mr. Faulder remarks :—

"In the course of my tours I have never yet found a village road in the Sadar subdivision (with the exception of a few kept up in the interests of European planters) on which there was any sign of any money having been spent on earth-work: a few rickety wooden bridges is all the Sadar Local Board has to show. Some roads shown on the list are not to be found on the ground."

The roads under some of the other Local Boards are reported to have been kept in good order.

The condition of the village roads in the Howrah district is not good, but it is expected that the profits accruing from the Howrah-Amta Light Railway will put the District Board in a fair position to make and maintain feeder roads.

175. No original works of any importance were executed in Birbhum and Howrah districts. Those executed in the Burdwan district have been noticed under head "Railways and other communications." The works coming under this head in the remaining districts consisted of village roads, certain light iron bridges over khals, and one or two inspection bungalows.

In Burdwan the expenditure incurred on original works and repairs were Rs. 10,600 and Rs. 1,2*,290 respectively.

In Birbhum the outlay incurred on original work was Rs. 5,432, and the cost of repairs amounted to Rs. 41,239. Rupees 2,596 were spent on village roads.

The District Board of Bankura spent Rs. 3,386 and Rs. 25,930 on original works and repairs respectively, and the District Board of Midnapore Rs. 16,508 and Rs. 1,53,024 under each of those heads.

The District Board of Hooghly spent Rs. 3,295 on original works and Rs. 48,763 on repairs. The Local Boards together spent Rs. 5,046 in repairing roads.

176. The marginally-noted statement shows the amount spent on arboriculture in the several districts of the Division.

Arboriculture.		Rs.
Burdwan	...	4,188
Birbhum	...	2,231
Bankura	...	Nil
Midnapore	...	138
Hooghly	...	6
Howrah	...	399
(Howrah Municipality spent Rs. 116 and District Board Rs. 283.)		

As in previous years, a good deal of attention was paid to this subject in Burdwan and Birbhum. As in 1897-98, nothing was spent in Bankura under this head. The amount spent in Hooghly is very small.

The expenditure in Midnapore is also small, though larger than in the preceding year. The Magistrate of Howrah reports that the *bar* trees planted on the sides of the Jagatbullavpur Road were almost all destroyed by the villagers, who apprehended that when they attained full growth they would interfere with cultivation. It would be well if fruit trees were regularly planted out instead of trees that give shade only. If planted in continuous stretches, they could be leased out to contractors by the mile, when they came to maturity, and would thus, in addition to bringing in some revenue to the District Board, also secure a guard against injury.

XXVI.—EDUCATION.

178. There were altogether during the year under report 11,016 schools with 303,984 boys and 18,290 girls, or 322,274 pupils in all, against 10,821 schools with 313,854 pupils consisting of boys and girls in 1897-98. This increase in the number of schools as well as of pupils was shared by all the districts of the Division except Howrah, where the number of schools decreased by 25, though the number of pupils increased by 79.

179. The total expenditure on education in the Division during the year was Rs. 13,61,360, against Rs. 13,21,741 in 1897-98. The expenditure from provincial revenues decreased by Rs. 10,935, while that from each of the other sources, viz., District Boards' Funds, Municipal Funds, fees, &c., increased by a total of Rs. 50,554, the increase under the head of fees alone amounting to Rs. 27,120. It will be seen that this increase in the expenditure from fees is an advance on the increase of Rs. 29,486 noticed in the last divisional report, and is a very healthy sign.

180. No information regarding the Hooghly and the Uttarpara Colleges is available. The Burdwan Raj College, which is maintained by the Burdwan Raj estate, sent up 153 candidates to the last First Arts examination, of whom 43 passed, against 118 sent up in 1897-98, of whom 44 were successful. The College at Midnapore, which continued to be managed by the Municipality, sent up 31 candidates to the last First Arts examination, of whom 17 passed, against 17 sent up in the preceding year, of whom 8 were successful. No information as regards the College at Hetampur in the Birbhum district, which teaches up to the F. A. Standard, has been received.

181. There were 93 high schools in the Division at the close of the year, against 89 in 1897-98, the difference being due to the establishment of 2 new schools in the district of Burdwan and 1 in each of the districts of Hooghly and Howrah. The total number of pupils attending schools of this class was 17,274, against 15,510 in 1897-98, the increase being shared by all the districts in the Division.

182. The following table compares the results of the last Entrance examination in the districts of the Division during the past two years:—

DISTRICT.	1897-98.		1898-99.	
	Number of competitors.	Number of successful candidates.	Number of competitors.	Number of successful candidates.
1	2	3	4	5
Burdwan	154	71	166	97
Birbhum	52	35	65	35
Bankura	70	41	75	50
Midnapore	96	64	121	71
Hooghly	138	97	169	120
Howrah	143	80	168	89
Total	653	388	754	462

183. The number of middle schools in the Division during the year was 408, against 403 in the two preceding years, the number of pupils being 27,190 against 26,733.

Middle schools.

The subjoined table contrasts the results of the Middle Scholarship examinations during the past two years:—

DISTRICT.	1897-98.		1898-99.	
	Competed.	Passed.	Competed.	Passed.
1	2	3	4	5
Burdwan	371	182	365	277
Birbhum	153	94	164	110
Bankura	231	85	220	170
Midnapore	404	194	410	319
Hooghly	211	102	212	145
Howrah	148	77	140	103
Total	1,518	734	1,511	1,124

The year under review compares favourably with the previous year as regards the percentage of successful candidates, which is 74·3 against 48·3.

184. The number of upper and lower primary schools was 10,454 with 276,426 pupils, against 10,317 such schools with 253,473 pupils in 1897-98, showing an increase of

Primary education.

137 schools and 22,953 pupils. This increase is common to all the districts of the Division except Burdwan, where the number of schools decreased by 40, though the number of pupils increased by 239, and Howrah, which lost 32 schools and 433 pupils. In explaining this decrease, the Magistrate of Howrah remarks:—

“Such fluctuations do not require any comment, arising as they do from the appearance or disappearance of ephemeral pathsalas, which depend for their existence on the caprice of their *gurus* and various other petty local causes.”

As regards the general rise of figures in the Division during the year, it

	Schools.	Pupils.
1894-95 ...	10,624	267,977
1895-96 ...	10,612	263,935
1896-97 ...	10,438	270,652
1897-98 ...	10,317	253,473
1898-99 ...	10,454	276,426

will be seen from the statistics quoted in the margin that the increase is more in the nature of an approach to the state of things which prevailed before the effects of the severe depression caused by successive bad harvests manifested themselves than an actual advance on the normal standard.

The following table shows the results of the Upper and Lower Primary Scholarship examinations during the last two years:—

DISTRICT.	UPPER PRIMARY.				LOWER PRIMARY.			
	1897-98.		1898-99.		1897-98.		1898-99.	
	Number competed.	Number passed.	Number competed.	Number passed.	Number competed.	Number passed.	Number competed.	Number passed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Burdwan	336	814	594	387	2,728	1,696	2,740	2,358
Birbhum	251	253	319	199	1,398	751	1,275	1,089
Bankura	378	364	473	289	2,774	1,387	2,680	1,836
Midnapore	576	483	670	365	5,959	3,629	5,620	4,852
Hooghly	182	152	233	118	2,063	1,075	1,880	1,245
Howrah	151	127	182	96	1,184	651	1,026	895
Total	1,875	1,693	2,480	1,404	16,046	9,189	15,211	11,679

It will be seen that only 56·6 per cent. of the candidates in the Upper primary examination were successful. This bad result was shared by all the districts of the Division, and was due probably to the stiffness of the papers set at the examination. The result of the Lower Primary examination was, however, satisfactory, the percentage of successful candidates being 76·6.

185. The number of girls under instruction during the year was 18,290, against 17,666 in 1897-98. The number of purely girls' schools in the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore, and Howrah were 37, 32, 128, 102, and 30. The number of these schools increased in all those districts except Birbhum, where the number was stationary. As regards Hooghly, very little information regarding female education has been furnished by the Magistrate.

The Uttarpara Hitakari Sava did its usual good work in the cause of female education. The total number of scholarships awarded by the Sava to the most successful girls in the Burdwan, Bankura, Midnapore, and Howrah districts was 40. The number of scholarships awarded in Hooghly and Birbhum is not known.

The District Board of Bankura, as in the previous year, continued to take a praiseworthy interest in the education of females as well as of Muhammadans and aboriginal tribes, giving rewards at double rates to *pathsala* teachers for passing pupils of these three denominations, and awarding special scholarships.

The Wesleyan Mission at Bankura maintained their female schools and passed 1 girl in the Upper Primary and 22 in the Lower Primary examination.

186. The following table shows that there was a slight increase in the number of Muhammadan pupils in the Division:—

1	2		3		4		5	
DISTRICT.	Population.		TOTAL NUMBER OF PUPILS ATTENDING SCHOOLS.		TOTAL NUMBER OF MUHAMMADAN PUPILS ATTENDING SCHOOLS.		PERCENTAGE OF MUHAMMADAN PUPILS TO TOTAL NUMBER OF PUPILS.	
	Total.	Muham- madan.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
Burdwan	1,891,880	2,67,224	47,570	49,653	7,221	7,645	15·1	15·4
Birbhum	798,254	1,69,752	25,898	26,399	5,331	5,488	20·5	20·7
Bankura	1,069,668	45,312	41,311	43,924	1,473	1,719	3·5	3·9
Midnapore	2,631,516	1,71,412	123,798	128,748	6,509	6,698	5·5	5·3
Hooghly	1,034,296	1,89,469	44,900	45,586	6,312	6,059	14·05	13·3
Howrah	763,625	1,56,022	38,227	38,306	3,785	3,621	11·3	10·8
Total	7,659,239	9,89,191	316,704	3,25,616	30,981	31,280	9·7	9·5

The following remarks made by Mr. Duke, the Magistrate of Howrah, seems to be applicable to all the districts of the Division:—

"By far the majority of the Muhammadans are poor agriculturists. It is not from the poverty-stricken cultivators, either Hindu or Muhammadan that the school-boys are recruited. The bulk of the scholars come from the ranks of the middle and literary classes of both the creeds. So before the Muhammadans are taxed with the backwardness of their educational progress in comparison with their Hindu brethren, it is necessary that a census of the upper and middle classes of both persuasions of every district should be taken."

187. The 3 schools called colliery pathsalas established for the education of miners' children in the Raniganj and Barakar coal tracts in the district of Burdwan were attended by 149 pupils, of whom 98 were low-caste Hindus, 7 Muhammadans, and 44 aborigines. The number of pupils attending these schools in the previous year was 155, of whom 84 were low caste Hindus, 14 Muhammadans, and 57 aborigines. The pupils attending these schools receive instruction gratis, each guru receiving a monthly stipend of Rs. 8 from Government. Three of these pathsalas sent up 4 candidates to the last Lower Primary examination, of whom 3 were successful, all 3 being Sonthals. The accommodation afforded to pupils at most of these schools was unsuitable, as previously reported, two of them having no houses at all.

In Birbhum there were 15 Sonthal schools with 426 pupils, of whom 386 belonged to the aboriginal races. In 1897-98 there were 14 such schools with 327 aboriginal pupils. Thirteen of these schools receive aid from the District Board and 2 are unaided. The expenditure of the District Boards on these schools was Rs. 819, against Rs. 854 in the previous year. Four Sonthal boys passed the Lower Primary examination against 1 in 1897-98.

In Bankura the chief aboriginal races are the Sonthals, the Kurnis, and the Bhumijes. The number of boys belonging to these aboriginal races attending school was 1,266, against 1,274 in the previous year. Of these, 22 were Christians, against 9 in 1897-98. The Wesleyan Mission continued to take a lively interest in the education of these backward races. The Sonthal Training School at Bankura, managed by the Mission, with a monthly Government subsidy Rs. 25, was prosperous with its free boarding-house, the roll-number having risen from 30 to 42. One candidate competed from this school at the Middle Vernacular and 2 at the Upper Primary examination, of whom all were successful. The pupil who was successful at the Middle Vernacular examination obtained a scholarship of Rs. 4 a month, tenable for four years. The Mission also continued to grant subsidies to pathsalas in the interior, in which children of the aboriginal races were taught. Two aboriginal pupils from these schools passed the Middle Vernacular, 2 the Upper Primary, and 28 the Lower Primary examinations, against 1, 3, and 21, respectively, in the previous year. The two middle vernacular boys obtained a scholarship of Rs. 4 a month each, tenable for four years.

The total number of pupils of aboriginal descent returned from Midnapore was 1,905, against 1,548 in the previous year. For the encouragement of education among the backward races in the district, the District Board annually awards two special scholarships to two of the best students of aboriginal origin.

188. In Burdwan there were 5 schools for special training with 117 pupils, against 1 school with 32 pupils in the preceding year. These include the Burdwan Technical School and Sanskrit *tole* receiving Government stipends, hitherto returned as private institutions, but shown as public institutions for the first time during the year under report. The Burdwan Technical School is the only industrial school in the district, and has just completed the sixth year of its existence. The number on the roll was 21, against 32 in the preceding year, the maintenance costing Rs. 2,534, of which Rs. 360 was paid from provincial revenues, Rs. 1,261 by the District Board, and Rs. 240 from municipal funds, the residue (Rs. 673) being met from fees and other sources. At the last Sub-Overseership examination of the Sibpur College, 19 candidates were sent up, of whom 7 were successful, against 3 sent up during the preceding year, of whom 1 passed.

In Birbhum the 3 schools under this head were Sanskrit *tols* attended by 29 pupils. The total expenditure on them was Rs. 843, of which Rs. 139 were contributed from public sources. There were 13 special schools in Bankura, viz., 1 Sonthal Training School, 1 Female Training School, 3 music schools, and 8 Sanskrit *tols*. The Sonthal Training School, which is under the management of the Wesleyan Mission, has already been mentioned under head "Education of Sonthals and other aboriginal races." The Female Training School, which is also under the management of that body and has a boarding-house attached to it, received a monthly grant of Rs. 30 from Government. Of the 3 music schools, 1 enjoys a monthly subsidy of Rs. 10 from Government, and has as many as 24 students on the roll. Of the 8 *tols*, 4 were aided by Government, the total contributions being Rs. 320.

In the Midnapore district the number of institutions coming under this head was 23, viz., the Bhimpur Sonthal Training School, the Raja of Moisdal's Technical School reported on last year, and 21 Sanskrit *tols*. The first is managed by the American Baptist Mission, and receives a grant of Rs. 1,350 from Government. It teaches up to the middle vernacular course, and has a separate class for girls. The second was affiliated to the Sibpur Engineering College during the year under report, and sent up 4 pupils to the Sub-Overseership examination, of whom 3 passed.

There was no school for special education in the Howrah district, nor was one required, as the Magistrate justly remarks, by the side of the Sibpur Engineering College. The District Board annually awards by way of encouragement to technical education a scholarship of Rs. 8 a month, tenable in the Apprentice Department of the Sibpur Engineering College.

189. The institutions which are shown under the head of "Indigenous or private schools" include Sanskrit *tols* not in receipt of stipends from Government, schools teaching Arabic or Persian, elementary schools teaching a vernacular only, maktabas or schools teaching only the Koran, and other schools not conforming to the departmental standards. These are unimportant institutions, which do not require any detailed remarks, and of which the number fluctuated as usual in almost all the districts of the Division during the year.

XXVII.—HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

190. The Burdwan Dispensary is maintained by the Municipality of Burdwan. The number of patients treated during the year decreased as compared with the number treated in 1897-98—a falling off due to the remarkable healthiness of the year. The popularity of the dispensary is reported to be undiminished. There is a separate hospital for native females in charge of a Lady Doctor. The income of the Burdwan Dispensary shows an increase under all heads except private subscriptions, and there was also an increase in expenditure, which was mainly due to the fact that, in consequence of the first-grade Assistant Surgeon, Babu Chandra Kumar Gupta, having been granted privilege leave for three months, the second-grade Assistant Surgeon, who acted for him, had to be paid. The cost of the diet of the in-patients decreased from As. 3-8 to As. 2-8, daily average.

The Raniganj Dispensary is maintained by the Municipality of Raniganj and managed by a Sub-Committee of that Municipality. The total number of patients treated fell from 4,716 in 1897-98 to 3,195 during the year under review. There was also a decrease in the municipal grant and in the receipt from subscriptions during the year, while the expenditure was also reduced in consequence of the smaller number of patients treated and the discontinuance of the grain-compensation allowance to the menial servants.

The Katwa Dispensary is maintained and managed by the Katwa Municipality. Here too there was a decrease in the attendance, but owing to the construction of a building for the possible reception of plague cases, the expenditure increased. The Municipality gave the institution a larger grant than in the previous year, but beyond this the Commissioners appear to have taken little interest in the institution.

The dispensary, which during 1897-98 had been removed from Mankar to Bud-Bud, was moved again by the District Board during the year and established at Debipur, as the inhabitants of Mankar failed to pay up what they had promised towards the maintenance of the dispensary, and because Babu Nitya Gopal Sinha, zamindar of Debipur, undertook to pay the same amount if the dispensary was established at Debipur.

The Purpastali Dispensary, which is reported to be much appreciated by the people of the locality, was carefully looked after by the District Board.

The Chakdighi Dispensary, supported by the local zamindar, Babu Lalit Mohan Singha, is a great boon to the people of the neighbourhood. The number of patients treated at the institution shows a falling off, though not to the extent noticeable in the case of other dispensaries in the district.

The two hospitals maintained and managed by the Burdwan Raj estate—one at Burdwan and the other at Kalna—continued to do good work and to enjoy popular favour.

191. The Suri Dispensary is a municipal institution, maintained jointly by the Suri Municipality and the District Board.

Birbhum.

The total number of patients treated during the year 1898 was 10,215 against 9,529—an increase which in a healthy year like the past is remarkable, and which is reported to be partly due to the large number of surgical operations performed during the year.

The only other dispensaries in the district are the Rampur Hât Dispensary, the Waller Dispensary at Bolepur, and the Hetampur and the Kirnahar Dispensaries founded and supported, the former by Raja Ram Ranjan Chakravarti and the latter by Babu Satis Chandra Sarkar and his brothers. These institutions appear to have done well during the year.

192. Of the six dispensaries in the district, three are maintained by the Municipalities of Bankura, Vishnupur, and Sonamukhi with the help of contributions from the

Bankura.

District Board. The first two also receive Government aid. The three remaining dispensaries are those at Raipur, Maliara, and Ajodhya, the first being maintained by local subscriptions supplemented by contributions from the District Board and the two others by the local zamindars.

The Ajodhya Dispensary is reported to be financially in a bad way. A proposal was made by the supporters to endow landed property for its maintenance, but it has fallen through, and the current charges had to be met from the small invested capital of the institution. The founders having asked for a reduction of their monthly subscriptions from Rs. 40 to Rs. 20, the Magistrate proposes to ask the District Board to make up the deficit.

At the instance of the Magistrate of Bankura, I have lately recommended a relaxation, in favour of the Maliara and the Ajodhya dispensaries, of the Government orders requiring each dispensary to contribute Rs. 38 a month towards the salary of the Civil Hospital Assistant in charge, irrespective of the grade to which he belonged.

The hospital at Bankura alone has separate wards for the treatment of female patients. There is also a Dufferin Fund Hospital, which continues to work satisfactorily, the services of the Lady Doctor being utilized also in favour of female patients who resorted to the Bankura Dispensary.

The Sonamukhi Dispensary, which had been previously held in a thatched house, was removed during the year to a small pukka building erected with funds raised by local subscriptions, supplemented by grants from the local Municipality, the District Board having promised a contribution of Rs. 100. The District Board similarly came to the aid of the Raipur Dispensary, and contributed nearly Rs. 200 to equip it with a good supply of surgical instruments.

The attendance at the dispensaries shows a slight increase, which has not been explained.

Midnapore.

193. The decrease in patients in Midnapore is referable to the general healthiness of the year.

Nothing has finally been settled with regard to the dispensaries proposed to be opened at Chypat and Kola by Babu Gopal Lal Seal out of the bequest made by his father, the late Babu Kanai Lal Seal.

As regards the proposal for the construction of a *zanana* hospital at Midnapore out of the donation made by Raja Narendra Lal Khan of Narajol, Government has been requested to ask the Public Works Department to prepare a detailed plan and estimate, and to take in hand the construction of the building.

194. The attendance at hospitals seems to have slightly increased. As mentioned in the last Divisional Report, a sum of Rs. 2,965 was received from the Hooghly Famine Relief Committee towards the maintenance of the Dufferin Hospital. Out of this a sum of Rs. 2,000 were invested in Government securities, the remainder being utilized under different heads of expenditure.

There was no female compounder or dresser, but on the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, a nurse was appointed on Rs. 5. The Lady Doctor is reported to have worked well.

The proposal to remove the dispensary at Rishra to Konnagar has not been carried out in the absence of any very strong grounds in support of it.

195. There were 5 charitable dispensaries in the district, of Howrah. The Howrah General Hospital and the Ulubaria Charitable Dispensary treat both indoor and outdoor patients, and the other three outdoor patients only. The total number of patients treated was 26,598, against 28,793 in 1897-98. The Howrah General Hospital continued to be efficiently managed during the year.

Besides the dispensaries noticed above, three temporary plague hospitals were set up in the town of Howrah. Since the close of the year a plague inspection camp for the examination of passengers by steamer from Calcutta and a plague hospital were established at Ulubaria. Similar camps and hospitals were erected at Kola in Midnapore, and for railway passengers at Pandua in Hooghly.

XXX.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

198. *District Boards*.—The District Boards on the whole worked satisfactorily during the year. As consultative bodies the Boards appear to have proved useful to the District Officers. The attendance of the members was fairly good.

Mr. Fisher, the late Magistrate of Burdwan, has left the following remarks:—

“The members of the District Board have continued to show a marked interest in the various questions which have come up for discussion.”

Mr. Faulder, the Magistrate of Midnapore, writes:—

“As a consultative body the Midnapore District Board has been of great assistance to me in introducing several reforms since I joined the district, and the entire absence of party spirit and of any inclination to captious criticism among the members has facilitated the disposal of business brought forward at the meeting.”

200. *Unions*.—No Union Committees exist in the districts of Birbhum and Bankura.

The following note has been left by Mr. Fisher, the late Magistrate of Burdwan:—

“The Union Committees in the district cannot be said to take much interest in their work with the little money at their disposal, and I am of opinion that for the present no more Union Committees should be formed, and do not think that much harm would be done if the existing Committees were abolished. The system seems to me to be somewhat premature.”

Mr. Faulder points out that, considering the large area placed under each Union Committee and the small amount assigned to it, it is idle to expect these bodies to do any real work.

Mr. Duke, the Magistrate of Howrah, writes:—

“The Union Committees are still, as I remarked last year, infant institutions. The members continue to be dilatory or reluctant to submit their accounts, and this is a great

drawback to their usefulness. Their work on village roads wherever I have seen it, has been satisfactorily done, but there has as yet been practically no cleansing of tank or other sanitary work."

The Magistrate of Hooghly has offered no remarks on the working of the Union Committee in his district.

My opinion as to these Union Committees is the same as that expressed above regarding Local Boards. There is no money for them, and they should be abolished.

201. *Municipalities.*—In Burdwan there were six municipalities, as in the preceding year. The difficulty experienced in collecting the taxes at Asansol, reported in the last divisional report, no longer exists. The Subdivisional Officer of Raniganj continued Chairman of the Asansol and the Raniganj Municipalities, and the Subdivisional Officer of Katwa was Chairman of Dainhat. Burdwan, Kalna, and Katwa all had non-official Chairmen, who were the same as in the preceding year. The general condition of the municipalities in the district is reported to have improved.

Mr. Fisher, the late Magistrate of Burdwan, has left the following remarks on the working of the municipalities in that district:—

"The Municipal Committees have continued to do much good work, and have managed their affairs satisfactorily and without any undue friction. The Commissioners are always ready to give a hearing to the criticisms and suggestions of inspecting officers. Except in Burdwan, the question of water-supply awaits a satisfactory solution."

202. In Suri, which is the only Municipality in Birbhum, a revision of the house-tax made in March 1897-98 came into force from the beginning of 1898-99, with the result that the municipal income was increased by a net sum of Rs. 193-2-9, hardly worth the trouble. The Commissioners in general took an interest in municipal affairs, and some improvement was introduced in the drainage system by the construction of culverts, etc.

203. Of the three municipalities in Bankura, viz., Bankura, Vishnupur, and Sonamukhi, the first two have 12 Commissioners each, 8 elected by the rate-payers and 4 appointed by Government, and the last has 9 Commissioners, all of whom are appointed by Government. In Bankura and Vishnupur there was an increase in the receipts consequent on a revision of the assessments, but the collections were bad in Sonamukhi, which shows a heavy outstanding balance. The Magistrate speaks well of the management of the first two municipalities and unfavourably of that of the last.

204. The municipalities in the district of Midnapore appear all to have been fairly well managed. They were all inspected during the year by the Magistrate, who found the accounts properly kept and the collections satisfactory. With the exception of Khorar, each of these bodies maintains a dispensary. This is a heavy burden in the case of Ghatal, Chandrakona, Khirpai, and Ramjibanpur, whose expenditure under this head swallows up the bulk of the funds at their disposal. The expenditure of the Midnapore Municipality on secondary education is characterised by the Magistrate as much too large, but he reports that he has succeeded in securing a reduction in the grants made on this account. Roads appear to have been generally properly attended to, notably in Midnapore, Chandrakona, Ramjibanpur, and Tamluk. Tanks are reported to have been reserved everywhere, though, judging from the habits of the people, the Magistrate does not think that much practical good is done thereby. The water-supply question is a very urgent one in Midnapore, but the Commissioners have not been very active in the matter.

205. In Hooghly the collections of the municipalities have been reported to be very bad except in Jahanabad. Periodical returns were called for, showing the progress of collections, but the executive generally seems incapable of dealing with their subordinates and poor results are shown. The office and collection establishments are often large, and the conservancy starved. The incapacity for realizing taxes leads to failure of outdoor works, and the municipalities are unable to show any substantial improvements. During the plague scare special expenditure was incurred. As regards the question of improving the Kishra *busti*, noticed in the last divisional report, a survey is being made by the Executive Engineer, 2nd Calcutta Division, preliminary to the preparation of an estimate of the cost of the improvements required.

206. The Howrah Municipality continued to struggle against adverse circumstances. The collections, although still bad by all standards of percentage, gradually improved, and were about 5 per cent. better than in the previous year. The Commissioners, who were greatly handicapped by the expenditure incurred on plague preparations, were unable to obtain any relief from Government by way of loan, owing to their refusal to increase the house-rate beyond $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Although averse to increasing the house-rate, they did not object to various increases and alterations in minor taxes, which experience had shown to be necessary.

There is little to note in reference to the Bally Municipality, the affairs of which are always very quietly conducted. The improvement in collections, which was noticed last year as resulting from the initial efforts of the new Chairman, has, however, not been maintained.

XXXI.—EMPLOYMENT OF MUHAMMADANS.

207. The number of Muhammadans employed in the several offices and Courts in the districts of this Division was as follows: Gazetted officers 8, ministerial officers 160, and menials 578. Looking to the difference between the standard of modern educational attainments acquired by Hindus and Muhammadans respectively, the percentage of appointments held by the latter is fair. In filling up vacancies the claims of the Muhammadan candidates are always duly considered, but their qualifications are not often sufficient. Mr. Duke, the Magistrate of Howrah, writes:—

“The Muhammadan population consists chiefly of agriculturists, labourers and artisans: a few of them have obtained employment in offices and Courts as daffries and chaprasis. It is often difficult to find a Muhammadan of good social position and education for superior appointments or for service on local bodies. There was not a single Muhammadan on the Howrah Bench, consisting of more than 50 Honorary Magistrates, and I have discovered one who is a clerk in a Government office for this purpose.”

XXXVI.—CONDUCT OF ZAMINDARS.

229. The conduct of zamindars during the year under report appears to have been generally satisfactory.

230. The Magistrate of Burdwan speaks well of the relations between landlords and tenants in that district, and mentions with special commendation the good example set in this respect by the Burdwan Raj estate under the able and enlightened management of Raja Bun Behari Kapur.

231. In Birbhum no complaints against landlords were received by the Magistrate during the year, except that they are addicted to the practice of ousting chaulkidars from their *chakaran* lands in consideration of high *salamies* received from outsiders—a temptation before which they actually fell.

232. The zamindars of the Bankura district, most of whom are poor, conducted themselves peacefully during the year under review. The zamindars of Maliara, Ajodhya, Kunchiakol, and Rajgram deserve commendation for their liberality, the first two for maintaining dispensaries in their respective villages and the others for supporting high-class English schools. The Burdwan Raj, which is the largest land-owner in the district, generally contributes towards all institutions maintained for the public good.

233. In Midnapore, among the zamindars of the district, Raja Joti Prosad Gorga deserves special praise for his enlightened management of his estate and the conspicuous liberality of his expenditure on objects of public importance.

234. In Hooghly Babu Siva Narayan Mukerjee, zamindar of Uttarpara, and Babu Piari Mohon Roy of Khanakul are reported to have rendered assistance to such of their raiyats as had suffered from the floods during the year.

XXXVII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

236. The record of the year is one of steady progress, one good year having followed another. Taking the Division as a whole, the public health was unusually good. No serious epidemic broke out anywhere, and the

mortality from cholera and fever, which annually claim the largest number of victims, fell off considerably. Notwithstanding the appearance of plague in many parts of Bengal, the death-rate perceptibly declined, with an equally appreciable rise in the birth-rate. An advance in the material condition of the people is indicated not only by a diminution in the number of those who emigrated to the tea districts, of bonds and mortgage deeds registered and of cognizable offences, but by the development of manufactures and industries and the increased activity of trade. The price of food was lower, while the wages of labour continued unchanged, and although the cheapness of rice, the sheet-anchor of the agricultural classes, poured somewhat less than the usual stream of wealth into their pockets, their general level of prosperity appears to have been maintained in most places. While the necessities of life were easily procurable, the advance in excise revenue shows that the people had the wherewithal to indulge in luxuries.

237. Considerable progress was made in the introduction of the Village Chaukidari Act in all the districts of the Division save Midnapore, where proceedings are in abeyance pending orders on a reference made to Government, and much has been done towards the amelioration of the *personnel* of the village and the municipal police. The ghatwali settlement has been nearly completed in Bankura, but the ghatwali lands in Burdwan and Birbhum remain still to be dealt with. Speaking of local self-government, the workings of the Local Boards and the Union Committees were not as satisfactory as could be desired, nor did municipal administration generally attain a very high standard of efficiency. In the matter of improving communications the most important event was the establishment of railway communication between Kola and Puri by the completion of the line from that place to Balasore *via* Kharakpur. In criminal administration a fair amount of success appears to have been achieved, and Benches and Honorary Magistrates were found useful as auxiliaries to the regular magisterial staff.

238. The large number of dacoities deserves mention. They appear mostly to have been carried out by ordinary villagers and up-country coolies employed down here, two important gangs having been discovered after the close of the year. It is hoped their detection will, for a time at least, reduce the figures of this class of crime.

239. The plague scare in Calcutta and Howrah drove large numbers to seek temporary refuge in the districts of the Division.

* * * * *

242. The necessity of decreasing the unwieldy size of the Midnapore district is strongly pressed by Mr. Faulder, who states it is far too extensive for proper supervision by the heads of the departments in the district—a fact which cannot, I think, be denied. The time is fast approaching when the Howrah Municipality will have to be placed under a special Chairman. As it is, the work of the Magistrate of Howrah is mainly in connection with the Municipality, and if the mufassal part of that district were with part of Midnapore made into a separate district, the administration would undoubtedly gain. It seems to be really a question of expense.

RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT
OF THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, CALCUTTA, FOR THE
YEAR 1898-99.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Calcutta, the 27th November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 4170.

READ—

The Report of the Honorary Committee for the Management of the Zoological Garden, Calcutta, for the year 1898-99.

THE total receipts of the Garden were Rs. 45,750, which sum includes an opening balance of Rs. 7,331. The actual receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 38,419 as compared with Rs. 39,557 during 1897-98 and Rs. 40,643 during 1896-97. While the donations and subscriptions increased from Rs. 566 in 1897-98 to Rs. 1,276 during the year under report, there was a noticeable falling off in the entrance receipts, which amounted to Rs. 10,843 only as against Rs. 12,526 in the previous year. The decrease under the latter head is ascribed to the outbreak of plague in Calcutta, which deterred a large number of people in the mufassal from visiting the Garden. The number of visitors who paid entrance money is shown below in comparison with the numbers since 1891-92:—

Year.					Number of visitors.
1891-92	...	...	...	...	116,382
1892-93	...	...	...	...	139,173
1893-94	...	...	...	...	162,449
1894-95	...	...	...	...	154,532
1895-96	...	...	...	...	165,152
1896-97	...	...	...	...	160,008
1897-98	...	...	...	...	151,640
1898-99	...	...	...	...	128,909

2. The total expenditure of the Garden decreased from Rs. 50,544 in 1897-98 to Rs. 36,925 during the year under report. The decrease was due chiefly to smaller amounts spent on "Original construction" and "Establishment." Under the former head Rs. 3,126 only were spent as against Rs. 12,907 in the previous year; and the establishment charges fell off from Rs. 14,269 to Rs. 12,973 in consequence of some of the coolies having left the Garden on account of the plague scare and the discontinuance of the famine allowance paid to the menial servants last year. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 8,825.

3. Since the close of the year the buildings and roads of the Garden have been taken over by the Public Works Department, and works and repairs will be carried out by that Department in future from such funds as are deposited by the Managing Committee in advance. As a special concession, the usual charges of $24\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. made by the Public Works Department for establishment, tools and plant will be remitted in this case.

4. The collection of animals in the Garden received an addition of 103 mammals, 253 birds, and 69 reptiles during the year. These were obtained as gifts or on deposit, or by purchase or by exchange with foreign Zoological Gardens. These statistics do not however permit of any opinion being formed with regard to the actual progress which the various collections of animals, &c., in the Garden have made during the year, and His Honour desires that the requisite information on this subject may in future years be supplied. The Committee specially thank the Raja of Gangpur in Chota Nagpur for the presentation of a valuable collection of animals, including a full-grown tiger.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to learn that the Committee have arranged, as an experimental measure, to throw the Sir Jotindro Mohan Tagore Library open, under proper safeguards, to students of zoology.

6. The deputation to the International Congress of Zoology at Cambridge of the Superintendent of the Garden has already brought forth an interesting note on the methods of management adopted in European gardens, some of which appear to be suitable for adoption in Calcutta.

7. During the year Mr. A. Simson, an old member of the Committee, retired on his departure from India, and the Committee recognised the value of his services by presenting him with the silver medal of the Society.

8. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are again due to the President, Secretaries, and Members of the Committee for their management of the Garden.

ORDER.—Ordered that this Resolution be published in the Gazette, and that a copy of it be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary, for the information of the Committee.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

**DONATIONS AND ENDOWMENTS MADE BY PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS
FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES AND WORKS OF PUBLIC
UTILITY DURING THE YEAR 1898.**

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT—MUNICIPAL.

Calcutta, the 27th November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 6196M.

In the month of March 1899, a Resolution was published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, showing the names of the gentlemen who during the year 1897 had made gifts of money or land for public purposes or for works of public utility. The Lieutenant-Governor has now much pleasure in publishing, for general information, a statement showing by Divisions and Districts the gifts that were contributed during the year 1898. The sums contributed are stated against each gentleman's name, and the Lieutenant-Governor is glad to avail himself of this opportunity of thanking them, one and all, for their liberality and public spirit.

2. The following are the chief donations which deserve special notice:—Nawab Sir Khajeh Ahsunulla Bahadur, K.C.I.E., of Dacca, contributed Rs. 1,00,000 for making arrangements for the prevention of plague coming to Dacca and for checking its progress in case it might appear in that town. He also gave Rs. 8,846 for deepening the Baigan Bari Khal and Rs. 5,000 towards the 'Indian Heroes Fund in England.' Raja Ashutosh Nath Roy of Cassim Bazar gave Rs. 1,00,000 to the Building Fund of the Victoria Zenana Hospital. A donation of Rs. 1,00,000 was also made by the late Babu Mohiny Mohon Rai as an endowment for the relief of Hindus and Muhammadans of Bengal rendered destitute by incurable disease, physical infirmity or extreme old age. Raja Sir Sourindra Mohan Tagore, Kt., C.I.E., placed a house in the town of Calcutta at the disposal of the Plague Commission, Bengal, for use as a plague Hospital, and also offered another garden-house at Sintee with its extensive compound for the same purpose, and gave Rs. 1,000 in cash for expenses in connection with the Hospitals.

The Lieutenant-Governor has much pleasure in noticing also the contribution of Rs. 6,500 made by Babu Ashutosh Biswas for tanks in the district of Hooghly: the donation of Rs. 6,000 made by Srimati Krishna Kumari Chaudhurani of Taras for founding a scholarship for, and awarding a silver medal, to the two boys passing best in Sanskrit from any of the schools in the district of Pabna: the gift of Rs. 7,000 made by Rai Banomali Rai Bahadur of Pabna for erecting a boarding-house for the students of the technical school at that place: the contributions of Rs. 5,000 each, made by Babu Mohendra Narain Patra and Kumar Upendra Chundra Chaudhuri, respectively, for buildings for the Diamond Harbour Higher English School and the Alexander Girls' School at Mymensingh.

The acknowledgments of Government are also especially due to the following three gentlemen:—Babu Gopal Sahu who contributed Rs. 8,333 for a pond in the district of Muzaffarpur: Raja Satish Chandra Pandey who gave an annual contribution of Rs. 600 for a charitable dispensary at Pakour and a donation for a building for the Jubilee Institute erected in 1891: and Kumar Indra Narain Singh of Moheshpur who also gave Rs. 120 annually for the dispensary and Rs. 1,012 held in deposit for the maintenance of the Jubilee Institute.

ORDER—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution and of the statement be forwarded to the Judicial, Political, Appointment, Revenue, General, Financial, Legislative, Marine and Public Works Departments of this Government for information and necessary action.

Ordered, also, that a copy of this Resolution and the statement be forwarded to the Board of Revenue, the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, the Sanitary Board and to all Commissioners of Divisions for information.

Ordered, also, that the Resolution and the statement be published in the Supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette* for information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

E. N. BAKER,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Annual Statement of works of public utility constructed by Private Individuals during the year 1898

Division.	District.	Name of Donor.	Purpose.	Amount.	Total of District.	Grand Total Division.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
BURDWAN	Burdwan	Babu Ram Chandra Samanta ...	Excavation of a tank at village Palashbera independent out-post, Faridpur.	500 0 0		
		" Ishan Chandra Mukerjee ...	Excavation of a tank at village Bonkapashi, police-station Mangalkota.	500 0 0		
		" Umesh Chandra Mukerjee ...	Excavation of a tank at Madanpur, police-station Raniganj.	4,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	1,215 0 0	6,215 0 0	
	Birbhum	Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	2,300 0 0	2,300 0 0	
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	1,370 0 0	1,370 0 0	
	Midnapore	Nimi Bawa ...	Excavation of a tank at Akusabad, police-station Egga.	500 0 0		
		Babu Gobinda Prosad Nanda ...	Construction of a wooden bridge 123 feet long and 5 feet broad at Nanda's chak across the Sadar khal, Contai.	1,200 0 0		
		" Kripa Sindhu Das ...	Excavation of a tank at Khar, police-station Potashpur.	500 0 0		
		" Jiban Poddar ...	Excavation of a well at Naraharipur, police-station Chandrakona.	600 0 0		
		Kuer Laik ...	Re-excavation of a tank at Sirampur, police-station Tamruk.	600 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	6,265 0 0	9,565 0 0	
	Hooghly	Babu Nani Lal Chatterjee ...	Excavation of a new tank at Nabagram, Serampore subdivision.	1,000 0 0		
		" Annoda Charan Addy ...	Excavation of a new tank at Nonadanga, Serampore subdivision.	1,000 0 0		
		" Ashutosh Biswas ...	Excavation of two new tanks at Satgora and Mathurabati, Serampore subdivision, thana Kristanagar.	6,500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	285 0 0	8,785 0 0	
	Howrah	Babu Purna Chand Dutt ...	Enclosing burning-ground at Khatore, Domjur	2,000 0 0		
		" Dulu Jamadar ...	Excavation of a tank at Bhatara	800 0 0		
		" Harish Chandra Pakhira ...	Ditto at Narikelabar	2,500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	768 0 0	6,068 0 0	
		GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION		.....	.....	34,803 0
PRER- DENCY.	Calcutta	Raja Sir Sourindra Mohun Tagore, Kt. C.I.E.	Establishment of Plague Hospitals	1,000 0 0		
			And the use of one house in town and also another gardenhouse at Sinter with extensive compound for Plague Hospital if necessary.	1,000 0 0		
		Babu Benode Behary Mullick ...	Ditto ditto	1,000 0 0		
		Rajah Ashutosh Nath Roy of Caminbasar.	Building Fund of the Victoria Zenana Hospital.	1,00,000 0 0		
	24-Parganas	Babu Mohendranarain Patra ...	Pucka building for the Diamond Harbour Higher English School.	5,000 0 0		
		The late Babu Mohiny Mohun Roy.	Relief of Hindus and Mahomedans of Bengal destitute by reason of incurable disease, physical infirmity or extreme old age.	1,00,000 0 0		
		The late Rai Bahadur Shashtivar Roy, Assistant-Surgeon of Benares.	For the maintenance and management of the Shashtivar girls' School at Taki.	3,000 0 0		
		Donation below Rs. 500	.....	371 0 0		
	Kbulna	Babu Gayaram Goldar ...	Excavation of a tank at Fultolla	500 0 0	2,10,371 0 0	
		" Chaudrakanta Goldar ...	Ditto at Daibagga Kati	500 0 0		
		" Biswanath Biswas ...	.....	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	750 0 0	2,260 0 0	
		Carried over	.....	.....	.....

Division.	District.	Name of Donor.	Purpose.	Amount.	Total of District.	Grand Total of Division.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
		Brought forward	.....	.....
		Amedali Dhabak	Excavation of a tank at Shamnagar	2,000 0 0		
		Babu Protap Chandra Rakshit	Construction of a masonry well at Toonghy	800 0 0		
		" Banka Bihari Nandi	Excavation of a tank at Agrakundi	800 0 0		
		" Jadub Pramanik	Ditto at Raghunathpur	1,600 0 0		
		" Banikanta Ghose	Ditto at Kadirpur	2,000 0 0		
		" Haris Chandra Shaha	Ditto at Barodi	2,000 0 0		
		Muhammad Chand Pramanik	Ditto at Char Haripur	2,000 0 0		
		Meru Sheik	Ditto at Jugia	600 0 0		
		Babu Taraprasanna Bhoomik	Ditto at Sengram	700 0 0		
		" Maher Mandal	Ditto at Belghoria	1,600 0 0		
		" Sadhu Mandal	Ditto at Hatikandha	800 0 0		
		Amin Mandal	Ditto at Katdanga Durripara	500 0 0		
		Mati Mandal	Ditto at Dhigra	600 0 0		
		Haran Mandal	Ditto at Natapol	1,000 0 0		
		Mossab Khan	Ditto at Bahir Bhepur	1,000 0 0		
		Babu Gopalchandra Ghose	Ditto at Bhepur	500 0 0		
		" Arjun Pramanik	Ditto at Dubli	1,600 0 0		
		Panchu Mandal	Ditto at Huda	600 0 0		
		Babu Rakhai Chandra Pal	Ditto at Kancharapara	1,700 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	1,475 0 0		
					22,975 0 0	
		Johiraddi Sheikh	Excavation of a tank at Baidanga	800 0 0		
		Bhim Mandal	Ditto at Samashpur	650 0 0		
		Babu Ramgati Mandal	Ditto at Bonhati	500 0 0		
		" Behari Lal Bose	Ditto at Akurpara	1,200 0 0		
		" Chandra Kanta Das	Ditto at Mauli	1,000 0 0		
		" Guru Das Bhattacharjee	Ditto at Mallikpur	1,000 0 0		
		" Jadab Chandra Roy	Ditto at Mauli	800 0 0		
		" Dina Bandhu Chakravarti	Ditto at Kulsur	600 0 0		
		" Surja Kanto Roy Chowdhuri.	Construction of a road 1 mile in length at Chhota Anchura.	2,500 0 0		
		Sadin Mullik	Excavation of a tank at Raghunathpur	1,700 0 0		
		Babu Konaram Pandey	Ditto at Shikri	1,600 0 0		
		Panchu Mandal	Ditto at Kota	700 0 0		
		Bholai Mandal	Ditto at Chinili	650 0 0		
		Babu Bireswar Goldar	Ditto at Hungli	600 0 0		
		Bholai Tarafdar	Ditto at Digra	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	7,550 0 0		
					22,190 0 0	
		Rao Jogendra Narain Roy	Construction of two masonry wells at Paharpur and Dhongora.	600 0 0		
		Babu Manik Chandra Sarkar	Excavation of a tank at Nrisingapur	1,800 0 0		
		Raja Ranjit Singh, Bahadur of Nashipur.	For the annual award of a gold medal to the successful candidate at the entrance examination who secures the highest mark in mathematics.	2,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	198 0 0		
					4,098 0 0	
		GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION	.....	.....		2,61,884 0 0
		Jimon Haji	Tank at Jamira	500 0 0		
		Goribulla Pramanik	Do. at Hatineda	400 0 0		
		Brojo Mondal	Do. at Haridobpur	1,000 0 0		
		Janulla Mondal	Do. at Saranjai	1,000 0 0		
		Sariat Shah	Do. at Phoolsho	700 0 0		
		Kismatulla Sarkar	Do. at Mohabutpur	1,000 0 0		
		Sinda Mandal	Do. at Malbandha	1,000 0 0		
		Ram Taron Ghose	Do. at Madaripur	700 0 0		
		Panchanunda Shaha	Do. at Chandragati	1,500 0 0		
		Mohishulla Molla	Do. at Majampur	500 0 0		
		Sariat Sardar	Do. at Sreerampur	1,000 0 0		
		Kailash Chandra Bagchi	Do. at Kamardiar	2,000 0 0		
		Abdul Aziz Sardar	Do. at Kamarpura	800 0 0		
		Kaimulla Haji	Do. at Aghpurna	1,500 0 0		
		Arjulla Sarkar	Do. at Jalsukha	1,100 0 0		
		Sirajdi Pramanik	Do. at Hulhula	1,000 0 0		
		Bahida Pramanik	Do. at Aghtian	800 0 0		
		Madhu Pramanik	Do. at Bhadom	850 0 0		
		Biswa Nath Chakrabutty	Do. at Halkami	1,000 0 0		
		Mukunda Thakur	Do. at Durgapur	1,000 0 0		
		Ram Chandra Bagchi	Do. at Kumria	575 0 0		
		Debendra Nath Thakur of Calcutta.	Do. at Patishor	3,000 0 0		
		Ram Lal Ghose	Do. at Hingalkandi	900 0 0		
		Shyama Charan Sarkar	Do. at Bouka	600 0 0		
		Chini Pramanik	Do. at Jatia	900 0 0		
		Abdul Sarkar	Do. at Dhontara	600 0 0		
		Moharum Akunda	Do. at Ratal	1,800 0 0		
		Babon Molla	Do. at Sahapur	1,100 0 0		
		Shukhor Molla	Do. at Hindoorboil	500 0 0		
		Kusta Kapuria	Do. at Kayash	600 0 0		
		Fakir Gain	Do. at Gangla	500 0 0		
		Carried over	.....	.....	30,525 0 0	

Division.	District.	Name of Donor.	Purpose.	Amount.	Total of district	Grand Total Division.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
		Brought forward	.....	30,525 0 0		
	Rajshahi	Kangal Mondal ...	Tank, at Chak Gobinda	600 0 0		
		Gopal Chandra Roy ...	Do. at Thakur Manda	500 0 0		
		Boli Mondal ...	Do. at Bagdanga	700 0 0		
		Gopal Mondal ...	Do. at Gachail	1,000 0 0		
		Bir Sardar ...	Do. at Madhupur	500 0 0		
		Chini Pal ...	Do. at Kherda Nariarpur	700 0 0		
		Mahabub Shaha ...	Do. at Madum	2,000 0 0		
		Tonu Mondal ...	Do. at Boira	1,000 0 0		
		Sribhush Goel ...	Do. at Soltanpur	1,000 0 0		
		Tarip Mondal ...	Do. at Sarta	1,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	6,080 0 0	45,575 0 0	
	Dinajpur	Gour Chandra Sha ...	Do. at Barat	4,000 0 0		
		Krishna Chandra Do ...	Do. at Marnai	3,000 0 0		
		Hijo Mondal ...	Do. at Chak Jalal	800 0 0		
		Arip Mondal ...	Do. at Harshura	900 0 0		
		Tinkori Das ...	Do. at Jagonishbati	900 0 0		
		Sundar Sarkar ...	Do. at Jagonathpur	600 0 0		
		Bakutulla Sarkar ...	Do. at Bikair	500 0 0		
		Ram Charan Bansha ...	Do. at Jolghar	1,900 0 0		
		Baranali Sardar ...	Do. at Basanta	800 0 0		
		Rati Muhamed Mondal ...	Do. at Jangalpur	1,200 0 0		
		Tara Mondal ...	Do. at Panditpur	1,000 0 0		
		Sheruba Mondal ...	Do. at Badarnail	1,100 0 0		
		Anulla Mondal ...	Do. at Mandalsai	800 0 0		
		Potu Mondal ...	Do. at Shabra	600 0 0		
		Anulla Mondal ...	Do. at Matash	800 0 0		
		Jafar Mahamed Sarkar ...	Do. at Chota Singa	1,792 0 0		
		Wife of Bhola Noya ...	Do. at Raniganj	1,000 0 0		
		Kadar Mondal ...	Do. at Sundaria	700 0 0		
		Juan Mahammed Mondal ...	Do. at Khadatpur	1,500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	4,825 0 0	27,867 0 0	
RAJSHAH	Jalpaiguri	His Highness the Maharaja of Cooh Behar, C.B., G.C.I.E.	Patgram Bayragi Hat Road (contribution) ...	500 0 0		
→ constd.		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	Completing pukka bridges 26 miles (Emigration road).	2,000 0 0		
			.....	1,109 0 0	3,609 0 0	
	Darjeeling	.....	.....	.....
	Rangpur	Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	951 0 0	951 0 0	
	Bogra	Mug Fakir of Palankuri, police-station Adamdighi.	Tank with a masonry ghat at Palankuri	1,000 0 0		
		Samatulla Sarkar of Sudin, police-station Sudin.	Do. at Sudin	650 0 0		
		Dhota Pramanik of Sudin, police-station Sudin.	Do. at Sudin	775 0 0		
		Madara Mandal of Haludghar, police-station Haludghar.	Do. at Haludgar	550 0 0		
		Nawab Abdus Subhan Chaudhuri	To supplement the deficiency caused by the conversion of Government securities in the income of the Fund created by him for founding two scholarships, three prizes and and two medals.	900 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	4,117 0 0	7,992 0 0	
		Sreemati Krishna Kumari Chaudhuri of Tarna.	For founding a scholarship and awarding a silver medal to the two best boys in Sanskrit who pass the entrance examination from any school in that District.	6,000 0 0		
		Chandra Kanta Dutta	Tank at Saidpur, police-station Dulia	2,400 0 0		
		Raghu Nandan Gossami	Do. at Joyghar, ditto Chatmohor	500 0 0		
		Homatulla Sarkar	Do. at Tangorjani	2,000 0 0		
		Bhobani Charan Chaudhuri	Do. at Haripur, police-station Chatmohor	1,500 0 0		
		Sridhar Gossami	Re-excavation of a tank at Handial, police-station Chatmohor.	1,000 0 0		
	Pabna	Parbati Charan Chaudhuri	Re-excavation of a tank at Haripur, police-station Chatmohor.	700 0 0		
		Shashi Mohan Saha	Tank at Bonbaria, police-station Sirajganj	1,500 0 0		
		Hara Nath Saha	Do. at Beltil, ditto Shazadpur	2,000 0 0		
		Srimanta Lal Sen	Do. at Sattia, ditto Raiganj	800 0 0		
		Dabu Mollah	Do. at Kusambi, ditto do.	800 0 0		
		Kashi Sarkar	Do. at Dighara, ditto do.	900 0 0		
		Bharshi Sarkar	Do. at Kamargaon	1,000 0 0		
		Rai Banomali Rai Bahadur	Erection of a boarding-house for the Technical School students.	7,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	385 0 0	28,485 0 0	
		GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION	.....	.....	.....	1,14,479 0 0

Division.	District.	Name of Donor.	Purpose.	Amount.	Total of district.	Grand Total of Division.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Dacca		Babu Nabadip Chandra Basak	Land acquisition for widening of road at Kaitabazar.	821 0 0		
		Nawab Sir Khwaja Ahsanulla Bahadur, K.C.I.E.	Deepening Baigan Bari khal at Baigan Bari ...	8,846 0 0		
		Rai Obhoy Charan Mittra Bahadur.	Water-pipe extension to Sangattola Lane, Sangattola.	750 0 0		
		Raja Rajendra Narain Roy Bahadur.	Dispensary building at Kapasia ...	1,500 0 0		
		Nawab Sir Khwaja Ahsanulla Bahadur, K.C.I.E.	Arrangements for the prevention of plague coming to Dacca and for checking its progress in case it may appear in that town.	1,00,000 0 0		
		Ditto ditto	Indian Heroes' Fund in England	5,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	961 0 0	1,17,878 0 0	
		Kumar Upendra Chandra Chaudhuri of Golakpur.	Construction of the Alexander Girls' School in Mymensingh.	5,000 0 0		
		Babu Brajendra Kisor Roy Chowdhry, zamindar.	1 Tank at lawarganj	800 0 0		
		Babu Shubal Nandi.	1 Do. at Guri	500 0 0		
Mymensingh		Raja Rajendra Narain Roy Bahadur.	2 Do. at Mosbakhali...	1,000 0 0		
		Shobjet Ali Sarkar	1 Do. at Dhopaghat...	500 0 0		
		Alim Sarkar	1 Do. at Khorshimul	800 0 0		
		Roujat Mandal	1 Do. at Udnopara	500 0 0		
		Sadr Mia	1 Do. at Korail	500 0 0		
		Ilum Sarkar	1 Well at Sudampara	1,500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	7,982 0 0	18,882 0 0	
		Babu Janaki Nath Roy	Tank at Baghia	500 0 0		
		Jitao Pramanik	Do. at Horirampur	500 0 0		
		Guru Charan Biswas	Do. at Karatin	500 0 0		
Faridpur		Khudiram Pramanik	Do. at Lakhipur	1,200 0 0		
		Baikunta Chandra Shaha	Do. at Dudkhali	500 0 0		
		Nilkamal Kar	Do. at Birangal	500 0 0		
		Mabul Khan	Do. at Bamanpatty	500 0 0		
		Babu Kali Mohan Ghosal	Do. at Moishar	1,307 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	13,205 0 0	18,712 0 0	
		Srimati Kamal Kumari and Kristo Kamini Choudhurni.	Road at Kowkhali	1,900 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	2,390 0 0	4,290 0 0	
			GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION	.....		1,59,762 0 0
Backorgunge		Babu Loke Nath Chaudhuri and others.	Tank within the Brahmanbaria Municipality	3,000 0 0		
		Adhar Chandra Shaha	Excavation of a tank and erection of a pukka ghat thereon at Abannapur.	1,100 0 0		
		Tamizuddin	Excavation of a tank at Atakara	575 0 0		
		Mahomed Hossain Chaudkdar	Ditto at Dobpur	500 0 0		
		Taz Mahomed	Ditto at Bar Bijaia	500 0 0		
		Abdul	Ditto at Banduail	500 0 0		
		Mainuddin	Ditto at Zammura	775 0 0		
		Ram Lal Shukul, Beni Madhab Shukul, and Gura Das Gope.	Ditto at Niz Moher	1,350 0 0		
		Lokenath Saha, with the help of District Board and Municipality of Brahmanbaria.	Ditto at Brahmanbaria town, close to Government offices.	6,000 0 0		
		Ramvati Kaibarta	Excavation of a tank at Bholachong	500 0 0		
Tippura		Gholam Hossain	Ditto at Shalkandi	500 0 0		
		Naba Kishore Chowdhury	Ditto at Shibpore	850 0 0		
		Beni Madhab Pal	Ditto at Rasullabad	800 0 0		
		Bashanta Kumar Chowdhury	Ditto at Sharippur	500 0 0		
		Naidor Chand Nath	Ditto at Kalyanpur	700 0 0		
		Keramat Ali	Ditto at Haker	500 0 0		
		Fazar Ali	Ditto at Dakhin Chandia	500 0 0		
		Kamaruddi	Ditto at Baghra	500 0 0		
		Jabbar Ali	Ditto at Shodhnai	500 0 0		
		Tilak Chandra Chakravarty	Ditto at Akhaura	500 0 0		
Noakhali		Arab Sheikh	Ditto at Pomokara	500 0 0		
		Ram Shunder Shil	Ditto at Gholkhar	600 0 0		
		Nahowari Seel	Ditto at ditto	600 0 0		
		Gobindo Chandra Chakravarti	Ditto at Binauti	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	18,700 0 0	41,350 0 0	
		Nasir Miyan	A road from Shonapur to Nilakhi...	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	50 0 0		
Chittagong		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	900 0 0	550 0 0	
Chittagong Hill Tracts.					900 0 0	
			GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION	.....		42,800 0 0

Division.	District.	Name of Donor.	Purpose.	Amount.	Total of district.	Grand Total Division.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
PATNA	Patna	Babu Raghu Nath Prasad ...	Well, Gona, police-station Bikram ...	600 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	260 0 0	860 0 0	
	Gaya	.....	.....	.....
	Shahabad	Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	7,060 0 0	7,060 0 0	
	Saran	Babu Sri Kanta Prasad ...	Bridge, Bareilly, outpost Baniapore ...	3,000 0 0		
		Mir Inayat Hossein ...	Do., Saran, outpost Baninipore ...	1,500 0 0		
		Babu Durga Prasad ...	Tank, Manik Hosainpura, outpost Gurkha ...	2,000 0 0		
		„ Sundergir ...	Do., Chainputtee, outpost Kuchackote ...	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	5,857 0 0	12,857 0 0	
	Champaran	Maulvi Doman Mia ...	Tank, Parsarampore ...	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	7,433 0 0	7,933 0 0	
	Muzaffarpur	Babu Gopal Sabu ...	1 Pond, Fatehpura ...	8,333 0 0		
		„ Kamla Pat Sahu ...	1 Do., Jahaul ...	4,000 0 0		
		Mussamat Lila Bati ...	1 Do., Dib Karnowte ...	1,100 0 0		
		Babu Jhumak Sahu Kalwar ...	3 Wells, Chitra ...	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	11,425 0 0	25,358 0 0	
	Darbhanga	Babu Darhari Pattak ...	Well, village Kabir Chak ...	500 0 0		
		„ Rai Ganga Prasad ...	Dharamsala, village Hajespore ...	900 0 0		
		Mussamat Jaiman Misra ...	Tank, „ Mirauli ...	900 0 0		
		Babu Kohar Pande ...	Do., „ Dadhia ...	600 0 0		
		Narhan Court of Ward's Estate, Rani Biesri Koor, proprietress.	Charitable Hospital building, Dalsing Sarai ...	1,698 0 0		
		Wife of Faquira Rai ...	Tank, village Kallyanpore ...	1,500 0 0		
		Babu Hechu Jha ...	Do., „ Pahanwar ...	1,200 0 0		
		„ Gopal Mander ...	Do., „ Bithauni ...	1,000 0 0		
		„ Naun Thakur ...	Do., „ Sawrath ...	1,000 0 0		
		„ Hakru Das ...	Do., „ „ ...	2,000 0 0		
		„ Nirsan Jha ...	Do., „ Goanuli ...	1,000 0 0		
		„ Dharam Nath Jha ...	Do., „ Mani ...	1,000 0 0		
		„ Lal Thakur ...	Do., „ Biraulih ...	600 0 0		
		„ Musharu Sah ...	Do., „ Kawrihad ...	900 0 0		
		„ Chhakhu Sudi ...	Do., „ Bendha ...	600 0 0		
		„ Amrit Nath Jha ...	Do., „ Gonaur ...	700 0 0		
		„ Lachuman Gope ...	Do., „ Itohar ...	800 0 0		
		Babu Kishun Gope ...	Do., „ Badi ...	1,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	13,770 0 0	31,668 0 0	
			GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION	.....	.....	85,736 0 0
BHAGALPUR.	Monghyr	Lil Kanth Sahai ...	Well, Mohanpur, Shaikhpura ...	500 0 0		
		Nawab Ali Khan ...	Do., Hosenabad, ditto ...	500 0 0		
		Ram Singh ...	Do., Mohinuddinpur, Balla, out-post ...	525 0 0		
		Jib Lal Chaudhuri ...	Well, Manapur, Togra ...	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	16,384 0 0	18,409 0 0	
	Bhagalpur	Mahashoy Tarak Nath Ghose ...	Tank, Sanjha ...	2,172 0 0		
		G. W. Pano, Esq. ...	Do., Charka Palthai ...	800 0 0		
		Kari Gauth ...	Do., Sitapur ...	650 0 0		
		Lalit Gope ...	Do., Amba ...	500 0 0		
		Jhumak Kunja ...	Do., Rajpur ...	500 0 0		
		Amrit Sahu ...	Do., Mongaur ...	500 0 0		
		Sadho Sahu ...	Dharamsala, Parbatta ...	2,500 0 0		
		Mahashoy Tarak Nath Ghose ...	A covered platform, with pukka floor for hat, Bharko.	1,259 0 0		
		Ditto ditto ...	A covered platform with pukka floor for hat Singha.	543 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	1,855 0 0	11,279 0 0	
	Purnea	Banaily Raj ...	Construction of a Lady Dufferin Cottage Hospital at Madhopara in the town of Purnea.	Land.		
		Raja Padmanand Singh, Kumar Kalanand Singh.	Bund, Purnea ...	1,000 0 0		
		Munshi Roy ...	Tank, Purandaha ...	1,006 0 0		
		Bulaki Mundal ...	Do., Dhamdaha ...	500 0 0		
		Kooman Das ...	Well, ditto ...	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	2,370 0 0	5,376 0 0	
		Carried over	.....	.....	.....

DIVISION.	District.	Name of Donor.	Purpose.	Amount.	Total of district.	Grand Total of Division.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Brought forward		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
			
	Malda	Arabdi Mandal	Tank at Talakuri	700 0 0		
		Soni Mandal	Do. at Chok Sunder	644 0 0		
		Saffi Mandal	Do. at Seal Ianga	600 0 0		
		Kaloo Sarkar	Do. at Salaidanga	500 0 0		
					2,444 0 0	
		Chulhai Jha	Well at Pakria, Godda	500 0 0		
		Raja Satish Chandra Pandey	Establishment of a Charitable Dispensary at Pakour.	600 0 0		
				annually and building of the Jubilee Institute erected in 1891.		
		Kumar Indra Narain Singh of Moheshpur.	Ditto ditto	1,012 0 0		
				held in deposit for the maintenance of the Jubilee Institute and Rs. 120 annually.		
	Sonthal Parganas.	Rai Sitab Chand Nahar, Bahadur	Construction of a ward for females in connection with the Charitable Dispensary at Dumka in commemoration of the visit of Sir Alexander Mackenzie.	1,384 0 0		
		Raja Ram Ranjan Chakrabarti, Bahadur of Hitampur.	For awarding a medal to the student of the Dumka Government School, who may stand highest in the Calcutta University Entrance Examination.	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.		1,200 0 0		
					5,316 0 0	
		GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION				42,824 0 0
	Cuttack	District Board, Cuttack	A plague camp and well at Khannagar, Cuttack.	1,800 0 0		
		Kanika Ward's Estate	A read at Rajnagar to Satbhoyas	1,690 0 0		
		Babu Monmoth Mitter	A school-house at Pattamundai	800 0 0		
		Gopinath Panda	A temple and well at Sikkhurnarainpur	650 0 0		
		Raja of Killa Aul	Tank at Doymul	515 0 0		
		Babu Lakshmi Narayan Jagdeb	Excavation of a tank at Sangaria in Ichhapur	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.		4,799 0 0		
					10,754 0 0	
	Balasore	Jujesti Mahapatra of Ertal	Tank at Ertal	750 0 0		
		Baikuatha Upadhaya of Kristopur.	Do. at Kristopur	700 0 0		
		Ganesh Sathpatti of Chakpada	Do. at Dhangadia	600 0 0		
		Kristo Prasad Das of Satasar-pur.	Do. at Bamba	500 0 0		
		Balbhadra Prasad Bhunj of Mangalpur.	Do. at Baghadi	500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.		9,625 0 0		
					12,675 0 0	
	Puri	Bhagi Panda of Gobindpur	Tank at Nandpur	1 500 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.		1,624 0 0		
					3,124 0 0	
		GRAND TOTAL OF DIVISION				26,453 0 1
	Hazaribagh	Raja of Padma	Construction of a new dispensary building for the Charitable Dispensary at Hazaribagh.	4,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.		200 0 0		
					4,200 0 0	
	Ranchi	Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.		300 0 0		
					300 0 0	
	Palamau	Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.		460 0 0		
					460 0 0	
		Carried over				

Division.	District.	Name of Donor.	Purpose.	Amount.	Total of district.	Grand Total of Division.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
CHOTA NAGPUR— concl'd.	Manbhum	Brought forward	.....	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
		Rajib Kolu	Tank at Ragbhopur	600 0 0	5,074 0 0	
		Bueha Mahato	Do. at Birgram	500 0 0		
		Mohorwar Rai	Do. at Dandua	600 0 0		
		Kanai Kumar	Do. at Khorakabad	560 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	(Includes a tank at Bukulla excavated by Ramkinkar Sinha at a cost of Rs. 400, but shown in Deputy Magistrate's statement as Rs. 400-500.)	2,824 0 0		
	Singhbhum	Abhino Manki	Tank at Batiaposh	500 0 0	6,560 0 0	
		Hajee Moosajee Ahmed Salajee	For providing better accommodation for higher class Muhammadan gentlemen at the Chakradharpur Plague Camp.	2,000 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each.	.....	2,250 0 0		
		Works costing less than Rs. 500 each in the Political States of Sonukalla and Khursawan.	.....	1,810 0 0		
		Grand Total of Division	.....	.....	16,594 0 0	
		PROVINCIAL TOTAL	.....	.....	7,84,835 0 0	

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 27th November 1899.

Burdwan.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* commenced. Sugarcane and *rabi* crops doing well. Fodder and water sufficient. Condition of cattle good. Common rice selling as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	14½	} per rupee.
Kalna	13¾	
Katwa	16	
Raniganj	15	

Birbhum.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Rabi* cultivation continues. Early *aman* is being harvested. Price of common rice at Sadar and Rampur Hat 15 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* has commenced. Sugarcane doing well. Sporadic cases of cow-pox reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice 16 seers per rupee at Bankura and 15 seers 10 chitaks at Vishnupur.

Midnapore.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of winter rice very good. Harvesting is progressing. Cattle-disease reported from Binpur and Garhbata. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs. ch.	
Sadar	16 0	} per rupee.
Contai	16 0	
Tamluk	14 ¾	
Ghatal	15 0	

Hooghly.—No rain. Prospects of winter rice and *rabi* crops good. Common rice sells at 14 seers 1 chitak per rupee.

Howrah.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* continues. Sowing of *rabi* almost over. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 13½ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—Report not received.

Nadia.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Sowing of *rabi* almost finished. Prospects of standing crops good. Harvesting of *aman* commenced. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice stationary.

Murshidabad.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* commenced. *Kaku* doing well. Sowing of *rabi* and harvesting of early *aman* continue. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	15	} per rupee.
Jangipur	15½	
Kandi	17½	

Jessore.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Sowing of *rabi* crops in progress. Early *aman* paddy is being harvested. Prospects good. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	16	} per rupee.
Jhenida	18	
Magura	17	
Narail	16	
Bangaon	17	

Khulna.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops continue favourable. Cultivation of *rabi* crops continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	17½	} per rupee.
Bagerhat	16	
Satkhira	14	

Rajshahi.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* paddy commenced. Prospects of standing crops good. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water-supply plentiful. Price of common rice 17½ seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Standing crops good. No cattle-disease. Plenty of fodder and water. Rice $17\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee at Sadar and 16 seers at Thakurgaon.

Jalpaiguri.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. State of *haimanti* paddy good. Transplantation of tobacco going on. Sowing of mustard nearly finished. Common rice sells at $15\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Darjeeling.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Hills*—*Haimanti* paddy and *kalai* being harvested; *bata marua*, *phaphar*, wheat, barley, *tori*, and potatoes are progressing. *Terai*—*Haimanti* paddy being harvested; potatoes and mustard are thriving. Coarse rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Hills	...	...	...	9	} per rupee.
Terai	...	...	...	17	

Bhutta sells at Darjeeling 21 seers and at Kalimpong 23 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—No rain. Sowing of *rabi* crops still in progress. Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 16 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease prevailing in Nilphamari.

Bogra.—No rain. Cutting of paddy and *rabi* sowings going on. Prospects good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 18 seers per rupee.

Pabna.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Price of common rice stationary.

Dacca.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Harvesting of paddy going on. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall nil. Weather cool and dry. Prospects of crops excellent. Health of cattle good. Fodder and water ample. Common rice selling at 19 seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. State and prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 15 seers per rupee.

Backergunge.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Aman* being harvested and *rabi* sown. Prospects fair. Average price of common rice $17\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee.

Noakhali.—No rain. Prospects of crops good. Cattle-disease at Companiganj. Veterinary Assistant directed to go there. Fodder and water available. Price of common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—No rain. Prospects of crops good. Water and fodder sufficient. Common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Patna.—Rainfall nil. Harvesting of paddy commenced in many places. *Rabi* sowing nearly completed and germinated well. Condition of cattle fair. Fodder and water for cattle plentiful. Common rice in Patna sells at $18\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee.

Gaya.—No rain. Harvesting of paddy continues. *Rabi* doing well. Poppy being sown. Common rice selling at 17 seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—No rain. Harvesting of paddy in progress. Sugarcane doing well. Fodder and water sufficient. One hundred and three cases of cattle-disease at Sasaram. Common rice at Sadar 12 seers per rupee.

Saran.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of paddy going on. *Rabi* and poppy doing well. Average price of common rice $14\frac{1}{2}$ seers and of *makai* 14 seers 14 chitaks per rupee.

Champaran.—No rain. Harvesting of *aphani* begun in places. Poppy and *rabi* sowings nearly completed, and young plants doing well. Prices stationary.

Muzaffarpur.—Rainfall nil. *Rabi* sowings almost completed. Prospects good. Prices are—Common rice $13\frac{1}{2}$ seers, wheat 13 seers, barley $16\frac{1}{2}$ seers, *makai* $16\frac{1}{2}$ seers, gram $15\frac{1}{2}$ seers, *rahar* $15\frac{1}{2}$ seers, and *marua* 20 seers per rupee.

Darbhanga.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. *Rabi* sowings going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease reported from Madhubani and Roserah. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	12 0
Samastipur	13 0
Madhubani	13 10

} per rupee.

Monghyr.—No rain. Weather seasonably cool. *Rabi* sowings and sugarcane-pressing continue. Standing crops doing well. Poppy sowings are in full progress. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Monghyr	...	13½
Beguserai	...	12½
Jamui	...	14

} per rupee.

Bhagalpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aghani* paddy commenced. *Rabi* sowings continue. Sugarcane being pressed. Sporadic cattle-disease reported from the interior. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	17 10
Banks	13 12
Madhipura	13 0
Supaul	20 0

} per rupee.

Purnea.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aghani* rice going on. Prospects of *rabi* crops good. Transplantation of tobacco continues. Sugarcane being cut. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	...	18
Kishanganj	...	17
Araria	...	18

} per rupee.

Malda.—No rain. Weather rather warm for the season. Sowing of *rabi* crops nearly finished. State and prospects of crops generally good. Early paddy being harvested. Cattle-pox reported from Manikchak thana. Fodder and water sufficient. Coarse rice selling at 17 seers per rupee.

Sonthal Parganas.—Rainfall nil. Weather clear and cold. Harvesting of early rice nearly finished. Prospects of all standing crops good. Cattle-disease in Rajmahal. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice 14 seers 9 chitaks and of Indian-corn 19 seers 2 chitaks per rupee.

Cuttack.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Laghu sarad* being harvested. *Guru sarad* maturing. *Arhar* and sugarcane growing. Condition of cattle generally good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Cuttack	16 6
Jajpur	17 1
Kendrapara	19 11
Banki	16 0

} per rupee.

Balasore.—Rainfall nil. *Sarad* ripening. *Au* is being harvested. *Rabi* crops growing well. Cutting of sugarcane commenced. Prospects of crops good. Rice sells at 18½ seers per rupee in the interior, and at 14 and 18 seers per rupee at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Cattle-disease reported from Basudevpur and Dhamnagar Circles.

Angul.—No rain. Harvesting of *laghu* rice in progress. Rain wanted for *rabi*. Common rice sells at 15 seers per rupee in Angul and 8½ to 9 seers in Khondmals.

Puri.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Laghu* being harvested. *Sarad* ripening. *Kulthi*, *biri*, and other pulses thriving. Sugarcane being pressed. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	13 2
Khurda	13 13
Interior of district	14 5

} per rupee.

Hazaribagh.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of rice continues. Common rice sells at 12 seers per rupee.

Ranchi.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of paddy still in progress. Rain badly wanted for *rabi* crops. Rice sells at Ranchi 11 seers per rupee and in the interior 13 seers. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient.

Palaman.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Paddy, *til*, and *kurthi* still being harvested. Rain urgently wanted. Cattle-disease reported from a few places. Fodder and water sufficient. Prices at Sadar are—Rice 12 seers, gram 15 seers, *makai* 14 seers, barley 17 seers, and wheat 18 seers per rupee.

Manbhum.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Winter rice an average crop. *Rabi* crops promise well. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Purulia and Raghunathpur. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice at Sadar 14 seers 8 chitaks and at Gobindpur 12 seers per rupee. Supply sufficient.

Singhbhum.—Rainfall nil. *Rabi* crops need rain. Average price of common rice 16 seers 10 chitaks per rupee. In Chaibassa it sells at 14 seers per rupee.

General Summary.—No rain fell during the week. The harvesting of winter rice is progressing. The *rabi* crops are nearly all sown and the young plants are doing well, except in Ranchi, Palamau, Singhbhum, and Angul, where rain is still much needed. Poppy is germinating well in Bihar, and sugarcane-pressing has begun in some districts. The price of common rice is stationary with a tendency to fall. Cattle are in good condition, there being plenty of fodder in every district. Cattle-disease is reported from a few districts only.





By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
The 28th November 1899.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
19th to 25th November 1899.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.				Inches.	°	°		°	°	Inches.		%			Inches.	
Nov.	19th	135.4	7.8	30.082	69.6	82.3	21.9	60.4	64.4	0.539	61.0	77	N and calm	...	38	Nil
"	20th	135.2	9.2	106	68.7	82.0	22.4	59.6	63.9	.533	60.7	78	N and calm	...	37	Day cloudy, partially night clear,  .
"	21st	135.1	9.1	.077	69.0	82.0	23.6	58.4	64.2	.539	61.0	78	N and calm	...	22	Chiefly clear,  .
"	22nd	138.9	7.0	.080	69.2	82.2	21.8	60.4	65.1	.568	62.5	81	Calm and variable	...	14	Chiefly clear.
"	23rd	131.8	7.8	.072	69.7	82.1	21.1	61.0	65.5	.574	62.8	81	N by E and calm	...	19	Day cloudy, partially night clear,  .
"	24th	132.2	4.3	.057	69.6	81.5	20.3	61.2	66.5	.611	64.6	85	ENE and calm	...	10	Chiefly cloudy,  .
"	25th	132.4	7.1	.030	70.9	81.3	20.6	60.7	64.7	.580	60.6	70	N and calm	...	21	Chiefly clear.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	30.073
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	...	Hour.
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	...	52.3
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	...	69.5
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	72.5
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	...	23.9
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	...	82.3
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	...	Miles.
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	...	79
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	71
The total fall of rain from 19th to 25th November 1899	...	...	...	...	Inches.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	Nil
The total fall from 1st January to 25th November 1899	...	...	...	...	0.01
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	71.95
The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.	...	...	...	...	65.15

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

Δ, dew.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 27th November 1899.

G. W. KÜHLER,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India
and Director-General of Indian Observatories.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

*Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 25th of November 1899,
as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.*

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 25TH NOVEMBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 26TH NOVEMBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	825	1,07,725	1,606	539	92,450	1,514
Jute	213	1,21,600	1,806	339	1,80,250	2,910
Firewood	69	69,175	851	132	94,125	1,424
Other articles	725	1,56,625	2,632	822	2,00,275	2,911
Total	1,802	4,75,125	6,895	1,832	5,67,100	8,759

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Abstract of principal Commodities carried over the Bengal Central Railway during the month of September 1899, as compared with the same month of previous year.

ARTICLES.	1899.		1898.		TOTAL.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1899.	1898.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Coal and Coke carried for the Public and Foreign Railways.	1,435	41	550	.....	1,476	550	926	.....
Cotton, raw .....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	4	.....	4
Cotton, manufactured—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Twist and yarn, European	82	.....	35	.....	82	35	47	.....
Ditto, Indian .....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Piece-goods, European	216	.....	85	.....	216	85	131	.....
Ditto, Indian	1	1	2	2	2	4	.....	2
Drugs and Chemicals—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Intoxicating, other than Opium .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Non-intoxicating—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cinchona bark .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others	2	.....	4	.....	2	4	.....	2
Dyes and Tans—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Indigo .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Myrabolams .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Outch .....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2	.....	2
Turnerie	6	7	6	2	13	7	6	.....
Alizarine and Aniline Dyes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Al (Morinda Citrifolia) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grain and Pulse—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wheat	7	84	10	105	41	115	.....	74
Rice in the husk	15	1,714	9	741	1,729	749	580	.....
Do. not in the husk .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jawar and bajra	49	345	79	10	387	80	307	.....
Gram and pulse .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hides and Skins—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hides of cattle—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dressed or tanned .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Raw .....	.....	26	.....	26	26	26	.....	26
Skins of sheep, &c.—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dressed or tanned .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Raw .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Horns .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hemp and other fibres—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jute—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Raw	2	4,414	.....	2,418	4,418	2,418	4,000	.....
Gunny-bags and cloth	20	13	13	19	47	31	16	.....
Lac—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stick .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shell .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leather, manufactured	6	.....	3	.....	6	3	3	.....
Liquors—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ale and beer .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Spirit of all kinds, including country spirit .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wine	3	.....	3	.....	.....	3	.....	1
All other sorts, including toddy and fermented liquor, other than ale and beer .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Metals—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Copper, unwrought .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brass, ditto .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Copper, wrought .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brass, ditto	1	2	3	4	3	7	.....	4
Iron and steel—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cast	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Unwrought	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	.....
Wrought	9	.....	31	1	9	33	.....	34
Manufactures of iron and steel	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Others	16	22	10	20	36	39	.....	1
Oils—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kerosine	101	4	176	2	105	178	.....	73
Castor .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cocconut	14	.....	17	.....	14	17	.....	3
Mustard and rape	29	.....	.....	.....	29	.....	29	.....
Others .....	.....	.....	41	.....	.....	41	.....	41
Oilseeds—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Linseed .....	.....	43	.....	43	43	46	1	.....
Rape and mustard	1	39	28	19	40	47	.....	7
Til or flinill .....	.....	46	.....	67	.....	47	.....	1
Ponpy .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Earth-nuts .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Castor .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others .....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	6	.....	6
Opium .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Paper and Pasteboard	13	1	14	.....	14	14	.....	.....
Provisions—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ghee	2	.....	5	.....	2	5	.....	3
Dried fruits and nuts .....	.....	100	2	85	100	87	43	.....
Others	49	30	44	65	83	109	.....	21
Railway plant and rolling-stock carried for the Public and Foreign Railways—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Locomotives, engines, and tenders, and parts thereof .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carriages and trucks, and parts thereof .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Materials—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Steel rails and fish-plates .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sleepers and keys of steel and cast-iron .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other sorts .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salt	311	4	473	9	315	483	.....	167

ARTICLES.	1898.		1899.		TOTAL.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1898.	1899.		
Saltpetre, &c.—								
Saltpetre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other saline substances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Silk, raw—								
Foreign	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Silk piece-goods—								
Foreign	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spices—								
Betel-nuts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ginger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chillies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cardamoms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stone and lime	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar—								
Refined or crystallised, including sugar-candy.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unrefined, viz., molasses and jaggery or gur, and other saccharine produce.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tea—								
Foreign	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Timber	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco—								
Unmanufactured	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manufactured—								
Cigars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other sorts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wool—								
Ballast stone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manufactured	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carpets and rugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Piece-goods, European	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto, Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other sorts of manufactures	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other articles of merchandise	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	2,880	9,836	3,100	4,084	13,016	6,850	6,075	900

CALCUTTA, the 24th November 1899.

T. SIDDLE,
Auditor.

BENGAL-NAGPUR RAILWAY.

Abstract of Principal Commodities carried during the month of August 1899, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

ARTICLES.	1899.		1898.		Total, 1899.	Total, 1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.				
I.—Coal and coke carried for the public and foreign railways.	Tons. 9,538	Tons. 28,063	Tons. 11,131	Tons. 39,004	Tons. 57,651	Tons. 50,135	Tons.	Tons. 12,494
II.—Cotton, raw	41	418	83	330	403	383	79	
III.—Cotton manufactured—								
1. Twist and yarn, European	8	67	7	55	75	63	13	
2. Ditto Indian	72	474	49	368	546	397	149	
3. Piece-goods, European	63	24	92	28	87	129		33
4. Ditto Indian	26	77	26	144	103	179		67
IV.—Drugs and chemicals—								
1. Intoxicating, other than Opium.		1		1	1	1		
2. Non-intoxicating—								
(a) Chinchona bark								
(b) Others	4	3	5	2	7	7		
V.—Dyes and Tans—								
1. Indigo	1		2		1	2		1
2. Myrobolams	108	15	578	17	115	585		477
3. Cutch	7	5	2	1	12	3	9	
4. Turmeric	80	8	36	5	38	41		3
5. Alizarine and aniline dyes	1			2	1	3		
6. Al (morinda citrifolia)								
7. Others	23	5	5	1	27	6	21	
VI.—Grain and Pulse—								
1. Wheat	3,175	47	999	95	3,223	1,094	2,128	
2. Rice in the husk	13	213	5	1	235	9	246	
3. Rice not in the husk	4,481	1,442	3,037	949	6,324	3,665	2,659	
4. Jawar and bajra	1	216	14	3	207	17	190	
5. Gram and pulse	3,188	218	1,035	239	3,416	1,422	2,024	
6. Others	19	91	5	1	110	7	103	
VII.—Hides and skins—								
1. Hides of cattle—								
(a) Dressed or tanned								
(b) Raw	118	233	44	94	241	139	203	
2. Skins of sheep, &c.—								
(a) Dressed or tanned								
(b) Raw	1	4	2	1	5	3	2	
VIII.—Horns	13	12	6	7	25	13	12	
IX.—Hemp and other fibres—								
Jute—								
1. Raw			1			1		
2. Gunny-bags and cloth	156	39	74	54	195	128	67	1
X.—Lac—								
1. Stick	114	715	13	248	269	280	500	
2. Shell	1	33	1		34	41		7
XI.—Leather, manufactured	5	1	3	2	6	6		
XII.—Liquors—								
1. Ale and beer	9	39	5	44	48	49		1
2. Spirit of all kinds, including country spirit.	7	2	3	2	9	4	5	
3. Wines	7	1	4	3	6	7	1	
4. All other sorts, including toddy and fermented liquors other than ale and beer.								
XIII.—Metals—								
1. Copper, unwrought		1			1		1	
2. Brass		1	1	6	7			7
3. Copper, wrought	1		1	1	2			
4. Brass	5	17	6	14	23	20	3	
5. Iron and steel—								
(a) Cast	1	1			2			
(b) Unwrought		26			26			
(c) Wrought	125	96			220			
(d) Manufactures of iron and steel.	67	35	304	64	105	268	230	100
6. Others	8	13	23	7	31	30		9
XIV.—Oils—								
1. Kerosine	378	33	309	45	310	354		44
2. Castor	19	1	5	6	20	11	9	
3. Coconut	7	1	7	1	8	8		
4. Mustard and rape								
5. Others	30	6	24	6	36	30	6	
XV.—Oil-seeds—								
1. Linseed	337	52	455	41	389	496		107
2. Rape and mustard	16	59	8	30	38	28	40	
3. Til or jhajill	235	298	237	61	501	294	203	
4. Poppy	7		13	1	7	14		7
5. Earthnuts		1		2	1	2		1
6. Castor		81	3	4	61	7	74	
7. Others	295	94	17	192	487	209	278	
XVI.—Opium	1		1		1	1		
XVII.—Paper and pasteboard	16	1	6	1	16	7	9	
XVIII.—Provisions—								
1. Ghee	12	211	22	23	223	64	159	
2. Dried fruits and nuts	11	34	29	25	45	45		
3. Others	128	54	103	54	192	157	35	

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 1,710.53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S. (a)	Rs. A. P. (a)	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	318,566	3,66,570 5 0	44,34,178 30	9,30,000 7 0	29,901 0 0	13,90,351 12 0	97,835	189,034	287,509
Per mile of railway ...	...	214 4 10	...	543 11 10	17 7 8	775 8 4	...	...	...
For previous 18½ weeks of half-year ...	5,769,830*	69,65,860 0 0*	7,78,73,518 30†	1,48,00,131 6 0	4,03,490 0 0	2,08,69,471 13 0	1,730,005	3,011,868	4,741,873
Total for 19½ weeks ...	6,079,396	63,32,430 14 0	8,22,97,704 20	1,54,30,201 11 0	4,33,801 0 0	2,21,90,023 9 0	1,827,860	3,201,522	5,029,382
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	287,335	3,68,370 15 4	42,45,663 30	8,79,830 5 4	24,933 8 9	12,73,039 13 5	93,212	169,999	263,211
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	2 5 5 4	...	514 4 11	14 8 4	744 2 7	...	...	...
Total for corresponding 19½ weeks of previous year ...	5,744,717‡	50,02,130 5 8	7,58,96,226 30	1,39,02,036 14 7	3,95,331 8 6	2,02,69,078 12 9	1,761,254	2,972,034	4,733,288

(a) The increase is chiefly in both the upward and downward despatch of food-grains from Loop, Dinapore, and Allahabad districts.

* Added number of passengers 1,158 and

Mds. 17,892

† Deducted Mds. 1,51,700 and added

" 4,873

On account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 16th

‡ Ditto " 632

and 23rd September 1899.

§ Audited figures up to the week ended 23rd September 1899.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 18th November 1899 on 1,710.53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S. (a)	Rs. A. P. (a)	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	334,733	3,54,435 14 0	47,29,892 0	9,89,037 9 0	29,796 0 0	13,73,169 7 0	97,073	186,692	283,765
Per mile of railway ...	...	207 3 4	...	578 11 9	16 13 4	802 12 5	...	...	...
For previous 19½ weeks of half-year ...	6,091,253*	63,42,409 14 0	8,27,16,416 20	1,54,47,710 11 0	4,31,164 0 0	2,22,21,293 0 0	1,829,344‡	3,211,866§	5,041,210§
Total for 20½ weeks ...	6,425,986	60,00,845 12 0	8,74,40,408 20	1,64,37,657 4 0	4,60,000 0 0	2,35,94,403 0 0	1,920,417	3,308,368	5,228,785
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	289,229	3,37,847 1 9	36,74,163 30	7,50,000 5 3	20,780 10 11	11,17,628 1 11	93,803	154,968	248,801
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	197 7 10	...	443 10 10	12 2 5	653 5 1	...	...	...
Total for corresponding 20½ weeks of previous year ...	6,013,940‡	62,39,977 7 5	7,95,70,420 20	1,47,21,627 3 10	4,16,102 3 5	2,13,77,706 14 8	1,835,147	3,127,002	4,962,149

(a) The heavy increase is chiefly in upward despatch of food-grains from almost all the principal stations on the line and from N.W. and O. & L. Ry. to Agra Junction and Delhi and in coal traffic both upwards and downwards, and in hides and skins traffic from Cawnpore City to Howrah.

* Added No. of passengers 11,857 and

Rs. 9,379

† Deducted Mds. 4,18,712 and

" 17,618

On account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended 30th

‡ Ditto " 2,227

September 1899.

§ Audited figures up to the week ended 30th September 1899.

TAREESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 11th November 1899 on 22.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	M. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	22,391	5,512 8 0	23,435 0	618 4 0	10 0 0	6,330 12 0	1,084	104	1,168
Per mile of railway ...	...	247 8 5	...	36 12 11	0 7 3	244 12 7	...	...	...
For previous 18½ weeks of half-year ...	349,307*	79,638 15 0*	2,56,300 20†	8,655 0 0†	169 11 0‡	89,373 5 0	10,714§	1,810§	21,530§
Total for 19½ weeks ...	365,698	85,161 7 0	2,78,793 20	9,375 10 0	169 0 0	94,704 1 0	20,798	1,920	22,718
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	21,612‡	5,308 11 5	16,362 20	606 0 0	8 14 0	5,932 9 5	1,084	104	1,168
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	234 5 0	...	27 3 5	0 6 5	261 14 10	...	...	...
Total for corresponding 19½ weeks of previous year ...	371,346	85,628 9 0	1,82,466 0	7,019 4 0	130 7 9	92,787 5 8	21,334	1,832	23,166

* Added number of passengers 1,095 and

Rs. 376

† Ditto " 2

On account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 16th

‡ Deducted Mds. 1,001 and

" 4

and 23rd September 1899.

§ Audited figures up to the week ended 23rd September 1899.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 19th November 1899 on 22·23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	21,487	5,254 2 0	21,703 0	219 12 0	10 0 0	6,087 15 0	1,073	116	1,189
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	236 8 6	.....	36 14 1	0 7 2	273 13 9	.....	.....	.....
For previous 19½ weeks of half-year ...	364,748*	85,373* 7 0	2,80,797 20†	9,440 10 0†	160 0 0	94,988 1 0	20,785‡	1,904‡	22,789‡
Total for 20½ weeks ...	386,235	90,636 9 0	3,02,500 20	10,260 7 0	170 0 0	1,01,076 0 0	21,857	2,080	23,937
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	19,138	4,451 15 0	8,743 10	593 5 0	8 12 3	4,854 0 3	1,103	160	1,263
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	200 4 3	.....	17 11 1	0 0 4	218 5 8	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 20½ weeks of previous year ...	390,494	90,080 8 6	1,91,209 10	7,412 9 0	148 4 0	97,651 5 6	22,439	1,992	24,431

* Added No. of passengers 1,050 and Rs. 21½ on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended 30th September 1899.
† Do. Mds. 2,004 and " 67½ 1899.
‡ Audited figures up to the week ended 30th September 1899.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 162·24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	18,376	18,346 12 0	64,151 0	12,425 5 0	77 0 0	30,869 1 0	7,521	3,622	11,143
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	113 5 3	.....	76 9 5	0 7 7	190 6 3	.....	.....	.....
For previous 18½ weeks of half-year ...	300,612*	2,90,594 3 0*	10,66,303 10†	2,25,019 0 0†	1,230 0 0‡	5,22,603 3 0	130,421§	64,281§	1,94,702§
Total for 19½ weeks ...	321,090	3,14,390 15 0	17,40,544 10	2,37,446 5 0	1,857 0 0	5,33,782 4 0	137,942	67,909	2,05,851
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	16,416‡	10,877 8 4	63,330 20	12,098 12 0	84 3 6	32,010 6 10	7,966	4,077	12,043
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	122 3 4	.....	74 9 2	0 8 4	197 4 10	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 19½ weeks of previous year ...	3,20,437‡	3,01,009 13 8	12,66,143 30	1,82,960 0 7	1,228 9 0	4,85,588 7 3	140,126	62,447	2.

* Deducted No. of passengers 4,375 and Rs. 5,716½
† Added Mds. 40,938 and deducted " 418½ on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 16th and 19th September 1899.
‡ Do. " 52½
§ Audited figures up to the week ended 23rd September 1899.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 18th November 1899 on 162·24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	16,000	16,157 6 0	63,600 10	12,102 7 0	75 0 0	25,364 13 0	6,907	3,339	10,246
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	93 6 6	.....	74 9 0	0 7 5	174 7 5	.....	.....	.....
For previous 18½ weeks of half-year ...	322,634*	3,17,458 15 0*	17,31,831 10†	2,35,315 8 0†	1,836 0 0‡	5,34,149 4 0	148,317§	67,197§	215,514§
Total for 20½ weeks ...	340,634	3,55,656 5 0	18,14,451 20	2,47,417 12 0	1,410 0 0	5,82,414 1 0	149,234	70,596	219,830
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	16,038‡	17,763 1 7	63,032 30	7,303 1 0	72 5 9	25,083 3 4	6,810	3,874	10,684
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	109 7 3	.....	41 6 4	0 7 3	154 5 3	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 20½ weeks of previous year ...	346,076	3,19,702 15 3	17,94,217 30	1,89,563 1 7	1,390 14 9	5,10,616 15 7	146,936	66,321	213,257

* Added No. of passengers 974 and Rs. 2,478½ on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended 30th September 1899.
† Deducted Mds. 9,098 and " 2,120½ 1899.
‡ Do. " 23½
§ Audited figures up to the week ended 30th September 1899.

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 11th November 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	8,910	Rs. A. P. 4,875 9 0	Mds. s. 37,654 0	Rs. A. P. 2,914 12 0	Rs. A. P. 16 0 0	Rs. A. P. 7,805 5 0	1,045	251	2,296
Or per mile of railway ...	...	61 13 7	...	36 16 7	0 5 1	99 0 3	...	...	...
For previous 17½ weeks of half-year ...	161,006*	77,217 7 0*	5,17,286 0†	41,155 15 0†	290 0 0‡	1,18,003 6 0	24,854§	4,705§	29,559§
Total for 18½ weeks ...	169,918	82,093 0 0	5,54,880 0	44,070 11 0	305 0 0	1,20,408 11 0	26,209	4,964	31,283
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Added No. of passengers 2,105 and Rs. 251 }
 † Do. Mds. 31,329 and .. 1,708 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 16th
 ‡ Do. .. 6 } and 23rd September 1899.
 § Audited figures up to the week ended 23rd September 1899.

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 18th November 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	No. 10,238	Rs. A. P. 4,039 9 0	Mds. s. 40,717 30	Rs. A. P. 3,657 9 0	Rs. A. P. 15 0 0	Rs. A. P. 8,531 2 0	1,932	294	2,226
Or per mile of railway ...	...	62 14 8	...	45 2 1	0 3 0	108 3 9	...	...	...
For previous 18½ weeks of half-year ...	170,793*	84,782 0 0*	5,08,506 0†	44,429 11 0†	305 0 0	1,20,400 11 0	25,210‡	4,063‡	29,273‡
Total for 19½ weeks ...	181,033	89,721 9 0	6,15,223 30	47,087 4 0	320 0 0	1,20,628 13 0	27,143	5,257	32,399
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Added No. of passengers 677 and Rs. 2,660 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the week ended
 † Do. Mds. 13,616 and .. 359 } 30th September 1899.
 ‡ Audited figures up to the week ended 30th September 1899.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY

(INCLUDING N. B. Dacca, K.-D., and Assam-Bihar Sections.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th November 1899 on 834 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including steam-boats.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	235,880	Rs. A. P. 1,15,730 0 0	Mds. s. 11,04,720 0	Rs. A. P. 2,56,940 0 0	Rs. A. P. 15,080 0 0	Rs. A. P. 3,04,750 0 0	35,400	40,517	75,917
Or per mile of railway ...	274	136 0 0	1,325 0	320 0 0	1 0 0	367 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 19 weeks of half-year ...	3,707,400	17,09,107 0 0	2,07,04,237 0	33,48,063 0 0	3,91,768 0 0	64,40,028 0 0	681,448	830,151	1,511,599
Total for 20 weeks ...	3,993,280	18,24,827 0 0	2,18,08,967 0	40,16,003 0 0	3,45,848 0 0	68,43,778 0 0	714,008	876,408	1,590,416
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	193,860	98,673 0 0	9,19,607 0	3,06,003 0 0	11,008 0 0	3,15,281 0 0	33,002	37,774	70,776
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	230	120 0 0	1,110 0	369 0 0	1 0 0	370 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	3,705,463	16,70,293 0 0	1,99,58,917 0	40,50,543 0 0	3,50,724 0 0	60,80,503 0 0	688,451	787,605	1,476,056

NOTE.—Increase is chiefly due to tele. rice, &c.

* Ex. incl. leather earnings.

† Audited up to 30th September 1899.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th November 1899 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	25,610	10,000 0 0	43,160 0	4,990 0 0	920 0 0	16,500 0 0	2,578	2,061	4,639
Or per mile of railway ...	298	123 0 0	503 0	59 0 0	11 0 0	193 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 19 weeks of half-year ...	4,46,184	1,40,905 0 0	7,09,077 0	74,546 0 0	3,075 0 0	2,19,387 0 0	48,280	32,636	80,916
Total for 20 weeks ...	4,71,744	1,51,655 0 0	8,32,227 0	79,538 0 0	4,706 0 0	2,35,887 0 0	50,658	34,697	85,355
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	25,680	8,423 0 0	63,862 0	5,823 0 0	74 0 0	14,090 0 0	2,478	2,116	4,594
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	298	96 0 0	615 0	64 0 0	1 0 0	163 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	4,69,364	1,41,825 0 0	6,86,428 0	68,141 0 0	3,790 0 0	2,06,765 0 0	46,361	44,323	90,684

* Audited up to 30th September 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th November 1899 on 54 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	4,910	1,090 0 0	13,140 0	700 0 0	10 0 0	1,800 0 0	710	214	924
Or per mile of railway ...	91	20 0 0	258 0	14 0 0	...	34 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 19 weeks of half-year ...	70,406	18,017 0 0	1,01,181 0	5,503 0 0	119 0 0	21,730 0 0	11,628	10,416	22,044
Total for 20 weeks ...	75,316	17,107 0 0	1,15,101 0	6,333 0 0	129 0 0	23,560 0 0	12,338	10,630	22,968
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	2,835	524 0 0	3,738 0	209 0 0	...	753 0 0	263	109	462
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	70	10 0 0	174 0	8 0 0	...	24 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	6,875	1,450 0 0	23,661 0	1,067 0 0	...	2,667 0 0	634	1,746	2,380

* Audited up to 30th September 1899.

BRAHMAPUTRA-SULTANPUR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th November 1899 on 24.75 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,960	640 0 0	12,100 0	630 0 0	30 0 0	1,290 0 0	164	614	778
Or per mile of railway ...	79	26 0 0	489 0	25 0 0	1 0 0	52 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 19 weeks of half-year ...	22,301	8,904 0 0	1,42,631 0	6,001 0 0	928 0 0	17,233 0 0	4,056	12,077	16,133
Total for 20 weeks ...	23,311	9,544 0 0	1,54,631 0	6,631 0 0	958 0 0	18,423 0 0	4,243	12,691	16,933
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Includes halftest train-miles 448.

† Audited up to 30th September 1899.

COOCH BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th November 1899 on 33.19 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	3,230	Rs. A. P. 1,020 0 0	Mds. S. 12,510 0	Rs. A. P. 1,100 0 0	Rs. A. P. 80 0 0	Rs. A. P. 2,170 0 0	530	763	1,093
per mile of railway ...	97	31 0 0	377 0	33 0 0	.....	64 0 0	.....	.....	.....
for previous 19 weeks of half-year ...	39,517	13,079 0 0	1,64,318 0	14,812 0 0	2,023 0 0	30,516 0 0	6,343	15,767	22,103
Total for 20 weeks ...	42,747	14,099 0 0	1,76,838 0	15,912 0 0	2,075 0 0	31,096 0 0	6,676	16,530	23,215
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,310	461 6 0	48,055 0	3,353 0 0	104 0 0	3,918 0 0	140	673	713
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	65	31 0 0	3,173 0	152 0 0	.....	173 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	24,319	8,683 0 0	1,31,863 0	13,063 0 0	2,111 0 0	23,817 0 0	3,054	10,685	13,739

* Excluding coaching ferry.

† Audited up to 30th September 1899.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 11th November 1899 on 139 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	32,320	Rs. A. P. 14,586 0 3	Mds. S. 134,507 0	Rs. A. P. 15,521 0 0	Rs. A. P. 239 0 0	Rs. A. P. 30,338 0 0	4,696	1,778	6,474
per mile of railway ...	249	112 0 0	968 0	112 0 0	3 0 0	226 0 0	.....	.....	.....
for previous 18 weeks of half-year ...	574,404	2,23,024 0 0	18,24,465 0	1,70,850 0 0	17,238 0 0	4,11,112 0 0	82,516	74,468	156,983
Total for 19 weeks ...	606,814	2,37,500 0 0	19,58,972 0	1,80,374 0 0	17,478 0 0	4,41,440 0 0	87,211	76,246	163,457
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	27,715	12,865 0 0	118,408 0	9,111 0 0	305 0 0	22,501 0 0	3,935	3,956	7,891
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	233	103 0 0	947 0	73 0 0	3 0 0	178 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	611,537	2,19,074 0 0	14,94,636 0	1,10,788 0 0	6,355 0 0	3,36,817 0 0	78,644	65,014	143,658

* Audited up to 30th September 1899.

† Coaching traffic calculated on 130 miles only.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 11th November 1899 on 1,085 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 1,085 miles open ...	(a) 123,570	Rs. 53,820	Mds. (a) 5,04,340	Rs. 69,230	Rs. (a) 14,400	Rs. (a) 1,30,950	25,030	(b) 26,947	51,977
per mile of railway ...	113.97	49.14	4,641.13	63.81	13.27	120.82	.....	.....	.....
for previous 184 weeks of half-year (c) ...	2,302,263	8,63,040	1,07,31,730	11,77,316	2,48,370	23,68,635	468,769	464,813	933,582
Total for 184 weeks ...	2,424,833	9,16,399	1,12,36,070	12,46,446	2,69,770	24,25,865	493,389	511,770	1,005,159
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 825 miles open ...	99,703	40,087	5,03,803	68,037	12,175	1,22,199	21,658	(d) 23,006	44,664
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	107.79	44.31	5,441.11	73.66	14.24	132.11	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,036,323	7,43,762	78,03,088	9,40,194	2,34,385	19,18,344	412,510	403,863	816,373

(a) Increase is due to the increased mileage.

(b) Includes 4,408 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(c) " audited figures up to week ending 23rd September 1899.

(d) " 1,820 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 18th November 1899 on 1,055 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 1,055 miles open ...	(a) 172,320	Rs. 66,590	Mds. (b) 4,08,310	Rs. 63,190	(a) 17,110	Rs. 1,40,830	28,824	(c) 25,733	54,557
Or per mile of railway ...	163'23	61'26	431'63	65'24	15'77	133'27	27'24	24'53	51'77
For previous 19 weeks of half-year (d) ...	2,441,602	9,18,294	1,10,81,633	13,12,164	2,65,023	23,96,371	497,637	514,411	1,012,048
Total for 20 weeks	2,613,122	9,84,884	1,16,60,133	13,75,354	2,83,033	25,41,261	526,861	540,142	1,066,993
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 925 miles open	101,175	40,036	4,19,833	59,312	11,306	1,11,054	22,036	(e) 23,036	45,072
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	109'29	44'28	453'34	61'01	12'44	120'71	23'94	24'91	48'85
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,137,427	7,84,098	82,27,927	9,99,407	2,45,894	20,29,909	434,536	436,617	871,153

(a) Increase is due to Banepur and Ajodhya mchds.

(b) " " increased mileage.

(c) Includes 1,706 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(d) " audited figures up to week ending 7th October 1899.

(e) " 1,205 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

SEGOWLIE-RAKSAUL BRANCH RAILWAY.

(WORKED BY THE B. & N.-W. RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 18th November 1899 on 13 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN		
	Number of Passengers.	Coaching Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 13 miles open ...	No. 756	Rs. 131	Mds. 10,796	Rs. 243	Rs. 2	Rs. 876	170	83	253
Or per mile of railway ...	58'00	7'25	829'78	13'30	0'11	20'89	13'08	6'37	19'45
For previous 21 weeks of half-year ...	1,013	470	21,753	633	22	1,175	810	363	1,173
Total for 22 weeks	1,769	601	32,549	876	24	1,511	980	446	1,426
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 11 miles open	500	100	10,000	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	45'45	9'09	909'09	9'09	9'09	9'09	9'09	9'09	9'09
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	10,000	1,000	100,000	10,000	1,000	10,000	1,000	1,000	10,000

SEGOWLIE-RAKSAUL BRANCH RAILWAY.

(WORKED BY THE B. & N.-W. RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 18th November 1899 on 18 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 18 miles open ...	No. 745	Rs. 129	Mds. 10,452	Rs. 414	Rs. 4	Rs. 557	168	84	252
Or per mile of railway ...	41'39	7'12	580'67	23'00	0'22	130'94	9'33	4'67	14'00
For previous 21 weeks of half-year ...	1,769	601	25,549	926	24	1,551	980	363	1,343
Total for 22 weeks	2,514	740	46,001	1,340	28	2,108	1,148	446	1,594
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 18 miles open	500	100	10,000	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	27'78	5'56	555'56	5'56	5'56	5'56	5'56	5'56	5'56
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	10,000	1,000	100,000	10,000	1,000	10,000	1,000	1,000	10,000

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Approximate earnings for the week ending 11th November 1899	...	...	17,577	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	22,379	0	0
Decrease	...	...	4,802	0	0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 11th November 1899	...	...	344	10	4
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	438	12	10
Decrease	...	...	94	2	6
Receipts from 1st July to 11th November 1899	...	...	2,17,577	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	2,74,853	0	0
Decrease	...	...	57,276	0	0

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Approximate earnings for the week ending 18th November 1899	...	...	18,979	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	21,121	0	0
Decrease	...	...	2,142	0	0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 18th November 1899	...	...	372	2	2
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	414	2	2
Decrease	...	...	42	0	0
Receipts from 1st July to 18th November 1899	...	...	2,36,556	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	2,95,975	0	0
Decrease	...	...	59,419	0	0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1899.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

[Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.]

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RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE DACCA DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1898-99.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Dated Calcutta, the 4th December 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 3782.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Dacca Division for 1898-99.

1. *Charge.*—Mr. Savage was in charge of the Division for the whole of the year.

2. *Tours and Inspections.*—The Commissioner's tour programme was very comprehensive, including as it did every district and subdivisional head-quarters and all the municipalities except one, whilst those of the Collectors, except in the case of Dacca, were satisfactory. The tours of the subdivisional officers were sufficiently long, except in the case of the Tangail subdivision. The necessary inspection of their offices appears to have been made by all save seven subdivisional officers. This duty cannot be neglected without detriment to the efficiency of the office, and the attention of the Commissioner is directed to this point.

3. *Crops, Public Health, and Material Condition.*—The crops, taken altogether, were exceptionally good, and general prosperity was the result. Mr. Roe, the Collector of Mymensingh, estimates the income of a fairly typical raiyat at Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 a year. If this is so, it explains why labourers come to Eastern Bengal in crowds from Bihar and the North-Western Provinces to perform the necessary field labour. Rice was cheaper than at any period in the last six years, whilst wages remained the same, much to the benefit, undoubtedly, of the poorer classes. Another sign of this prosperity is the fact that the native potter is finding his wares unsaleable in the presence of European pottery and enamelled ironware. The year, comparatively speaking, was healthy, but was marked by certain outbreaks of plague which were, fortunately, quickly checked. The Lieutenant-Governor takes with pleasure this opportunity of acknowledging the services of the Commissioner and Messrs. Bell, Rankin, and Temple in checking the inroads of plague, and the valuable

assistance given to Mr. Temple in that work by Babu Kumud Nath Mukherji, Subdivisional Officer of Madaripur.

4. *Trade and Commerce.*—The main feature in the trade of the year has been the great decrease in the export of jute, which, owing to a short crop, fell from 95 to 44 lakhs of maunds, and this very considerably affected the trade of the local port of Narayanganj. As was to be expected, the good local harvests caused a very marked diminution in the import of food-grains, more especially of rice, as compared with last year, exports increasing to some extent. The great development in the import of coal has not been explained. Most of the loan offices appear to be in a flourishing condition, and the enterprising "Marriage Companies" are giving no trouble, save in Mymensingh. The Lieutenant-Governor has read with much interest the figures giving, as regards Backergunge, the average number of people to each tank of wholesome water. Presumably, so far as the subdivisions are concerned, these figures had been prepared thana by thana; and, that being so, the District Board will, as the Commissioner observes, be able to see where their efforts are most needed to improve the existing water-supply.

5. *Civil Justice.*—The total number of civil suits instituted in the year was 129,093, and the number disposed of 132,757, being a decrease in each instance of nearly 6 per cent. as compared with the corresponding totals of the preceding year. The total number of rent suits was greater than that of 1897 a result due entirely to the increase in the district of Backergunge. The percentage of witnesses detained over two days was 13·6, which is a marked increase for the worse over the figures (10·6) of the preceding year, Mymensingh having the most unsatisfactory record.

6. *Crime.*—There was a decrease, especially in Backergunge and Faridpur, in the total number of cognisable crimes, and an increase, notably in Backergunge and Dacca, in that of non-cognisable cases. An explanation for each fact is sought in the greater prosperity of the year. The number of murders increased from 67 to 93. There was only one gunshot murder in Backergunge, though the number of other murders was higher there than elsewhere. The number of cases of riot slightly decreased, though it is reported that those due to the instigation of influential men are still unduly numerous. Special attention is being given to this class of cases. The dacoities, too, increased, though to no serious extent.

• The work of the criminal courts was lighter during the year, though as many as 10,498 prisoners were tried in the district of Mymensingh. The Honorary Magistrates, with the exception of some Benches in Faridpur, are reported to have done good work, and they tried more than a quarter of the prisoners sent up. Although the Commissioner says the attendance has been better than in previous years, the Lieutenant-Governor notices with regret the very large number of instances in which Honorary Magistrates' absented themselves without leave or giving notice. He does not believe that this was intentional, involving as it does so much inconvenience to the public, but would be glad to hear this explanation. There has been a satisfactory decrease in the percentage of A form cases in which the remands were six or more: and the notice taken of the conduct of the Magistrates who erred in this respect is approved.

The conduct of the police is reported to have been fairly good, though the Commissioner has doubts with regard to their improvement in respect of smartness and efficiency. The departure of Mr. Ryland on leave, and the illness of Mr. Coates, who succeeded him, necessitated changes of the District Superintendent of Backergunge until a permanent arrangement could be made by posting the present officer to the district. It is satisfactory to see that the amount (Rs. 15,663) distributed as rewards to chaukidars, exceeds what was similarly spent last year, and His Honour hopes that the efforts to secure good dafadars, on which, as the Commissioner remarks, the success of the chaukidari system depends, will be maintained.

7. *Land Revenue and Cess.*—The land revenue collections in permanently-settled estates were satisfactory, so far as current collections are concerned: but no explanation is offered for the failure to completely collect the arrears in Dacca and Faridpur. With regard to estates leased in farm to *thikadars*, it was necessary last year to draw pointed attention to the bad results obtained. This year only one of the districts collected up to the Board's standard. The Collector of Faridpur, the figures for which district show a decided

improvement as compared with those of the preceding year, reports that the farmers withhold payment until the last stage of the certificate procedure. It is presumed that by this is meant that they wait until action is taken against their property or person. If this is so, it would save time to proceed to that stage immediately the legal period of notice has expired: and probably a sharp lesson of this kind would not require repetition. The collections in the khas mahals also were unsatisfactory, especially in Dacca: and looking to the measure of prosperity enjoyed by the raiyats of this division, the Lieutenant-Governor cannot consider the explanations advanced, save in the case of Faridpur, to be satisfactory. A raiyat who is in difficulties is worthy of the most careful consideration; but one who can afford to pay, but insists on waiting to be made to do so, is deserving of none; and the difference may, apparently, with advantage, be brought to the knowledge of some of the raiyats of the khas mahals in Dacca.

The zamindari ddk cess was collected satisfactorily. The amount involved, about Rs. 65,000, is, however, small.

The Road and Public Works cess collections are not so satisfactory as those of last year, the outstanding balance increasing from Rs. 1,69,000 to Rs. 2,16,000 or over 16 per cent. of the gross demand. In Mymensingh only 85 per cent. of the current demand was collected. It is explained that several big zamindars, who are habitual defaulters, failed to pay the kists of January and March within the year. Unless they are insolvent, it is desirable that the inconvenience of this practice should be clearly brought to their personal notice. Other complaints of a similar kind have been brought to the Lieutenant-Governor's notice, and it may be necessary to consider whether the present system of collection should not be revised. There were 110 resettlements in the year, resulting in an increase of Rs. 13,025 in the revenue, while the 69 original settlements and 12 summary settlements resulted in an increase of Rs. 1,744 only.

The improvement exhibited by the previous year's working of the Certificate Act was not maintained. The number of cases for disposal were almost the same in each year, but 6,000 were remaining unsatisfied at the close of the year under report. It is a matter for regret that the certificate office of Faridpur was in so unsatisfactory a condition, and it is expected that the Collector will, under the guidance of the Commissioner, effect an improvement in this important branch of his office.

Of the 341 partition cases pending at the close of the year, nearly the whole relate to the districts of Dacca and Mymensingh. The Lieutenant-Governor recognises that the slow progress made during the year in the former district, where there are 62 cases pending over five years was practically due to causes beyond the Collector's control, and trusts that the Commissioners' anticipations as regards the speedy disposal of these old cases will be realised.

8. *Wards' Estates.*—The collections were good, amounting to 90 per cent. After deducting remissions, the balance was just over 6 per cent. and the expenses of the management came to about 15 per cent. of the collections.

9. *Excise, &c.*—Owing to better settlements and probably also to greater prosperity, the revenue derived from excise showed, as compared with the previous year, an increase of about 2·7 per cent., and, as a result chiefly of the excellent crops, the total revenue derived from the sale of stamps was greater by 4·1 per cent. than that for 1897-98.

With regard to the income-tax, the balance at the end of the year was less than one per cent. of the final demand, and while, at the same time, the cost of collections was slightly lower than in the preceding year.

10. *Roads and Communications.*—As regards Mymensingh, the Commissioner remarks that only by opening lines of rail can the want of means of communication, due to the gradual silting up of the Brahmaputra and other smaller streams, be effectually removed. It has been suggested by the Commissioner that the District Board should make similar efforts to those so successfully made in other districts to induce private capitalists to develop this district by means of light railways. In the direction of arboriculture, the measures taken by the various District Boards have been very small.

11. *Education.*—The progress made in educational matters during the year was considerable. The number of children at school increased from 229,073 to 238,066 and the number of schools from 8,432 to 8,572. Thus the ground lost in the previous year owing to the high price of food which resulted from scarcity elsewhere was regained. The number of high schools is now 62, and

nearly all are pecuniarily prosperous and educationally successful. There was also an increase in the number of Middle English Schools, and there is little room for doubt that in this Division the English education which is prescribed by the Calcutta University is efficiently provided and eagerly pursued. Equally flourishing in its own way is the Medical School, which likewise opens the door to a respectable profession. But the same measure of success has not attended the institutions which provide vernacular education; female education, so far from progressing, is losing ground; the practical training afforded at the Survey School and the two industrial schools is falling into neglect, and the classical education given by the *lols* and *maktabs* and the religious teaching of the *Koran* schools are sought by a constantly diminishing number of pupils. English education is the door to the public services; it at present affords the surest prospect of success in those pursuits which are considered respectable, and like Aaron's rod it devours its rivals. This is a development, however, which is not peculiar to the Dacca Division, and the consequent adjustments are engaging the serious attention of Government.

12. *Dispensaries.*—The Lieutenant-Governor observes with much satisfaction that the number of these most useful and beneficial institutions has increased from 85 to 88, and that the number of patients during the year exceeded 6 lakhs, being an increase of 9·2 per cent., over the total of the preceding year. Numerous improvements have been effected during the year, and an excellent plan has been adopted in Mymensingh, whereby a trained female medical officer has been placed in each subdivision. The upper classes outside a few big towns have scarcely any facilities for obtaining medical attendance in their *zananas*; and the arrangement made in Mymensingh ought to involve little expense to the District Board, while it gives a great convenience to the people. The amount of medical aid which is now at the disposal of the people cannot, however, be considered sufficient; and in a Division so well off as that of Dacca, the system, followed with such advantage by Mr. Greer in Tippera, might, with advantage, be introduced whereby a dispensary was furnished to every place which guaranteed the building and the cost of the yearly supply of medicines.

13. *Local Self-Government institutions.*—The working of the District Boards during the year shows that they are, what the Commissioner calls them, “useful institutions;” but it is clear that Local Boards, except where the Chairman is the Subdivisional Officer, have so far not proved a success in the Dacca Division. The Municipalities have on the whole worked fairly well, except in the case of Dacca, the administration of which is the matter of very condemnatory comment alike by the Commissioner and the Magistrate. The thanks of Government are due to the various non-official Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen who have devoted their time and labour to the performance of their duties.

14. *Employment of Muhammadans.*—Although the Muhammadans in this Division are nearly twice as numerous as the Hindus, the proportion of offices held by the former is only about a quarter of that held by the latter. This result is due chiefly to the almost total absence of any middle class among the Muhammadans, nearly all of whom are cultivating raiyats; and, from the reports before him, the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the claims of Muhammadans to a share of the appointments under Government are fully considered by the District Officers.

15. *Conduct of zamindars.*—The Commissioner has reported as deserving of recognition the manner in which their estates were managed by Nawab Sir Khwajah Ahsanullah Bahadur, K.C.I.E., Maharaja Surjya Kanta Acharjya of Mymensingh, Raja Rajendra Narayan Roy Chowdry Bahadur of Bhowal, Kumar Upendra Chandra Chaudhuri of Golokpur, Rai Jogendra Kishore Rai Chaudhuri, Bahadur, of Ram Gopalpur, and Babu Satis Chandra Chaudhuri of Bhowanipur, who are not less liberal in public matters than just in their relations with their raiyats. Other landlords are spoken of in very different terms, as having little regard for the welfare of their raiyats or their own reputation; while a very large proportion is non-resident.

The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are due to Mr. Savage for his careful and excellent administration of the Division. Extracts from his report are published below for information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Extract from the Annual General Administration Report of the Dacca Division for 1898-99.

III.—WEATHER AND CROPS.

15. The average rainfall of the year under report for the Division was 83·83 against 72·0 in the previous year, and 72·11, the average of the five years ending 1897-98. The distribution was favourable to the crops which were generally good.

16. The outturn of the *aus* and *aman* rice was above the normal. Jute was a bumper crop on the area sown, but the area was restricted on account of low prices obtained in the previous years; and the minor crops generally were fair.

17. The *aman*, or the principal rice crop, was probably the best there has been in the Division for many years except in Backergunge, where unprecedented damage, caused by an insect called the *pamari*, reduced the outturn by at least one-fourth.

IV.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

18. The Division was comparatively healthier in the year under report than in the previous year, the death-rate per mille of population being 30·6 against 32·2 in 1897. The following table shows the death-rate per mille, and the percentage of deaths on population due to several causes, in each district, compared with the year 1897:—

District.	Death-rate per mille of population.		PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS DUE TO—													
			Fever.		Cholera.		Bowel-complaint.		Injuries.		Small-pox.		Plague.		Other causes.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Dacca	27·9	22·1	1·9	1·9	·18	·3	·11	·18	·03	·03	·008	·001	...	...	·3	·56
Mymensingh	27·7	26·04	2·1	2·08	·2	·13	·02	·015	·02	·02	·004	·007	...	...	·3	·3
Faridpur	39·4	36·68	2·9	2·9	·5	·1	·03	·03	·03	·03	·001	·01	...	...	·6	·4
Backergunge	46·4	34·35	2·7	2·3	·5	·1	·08	·01	·06	·06	·003	·001	...	·0008	·9	·8

19. Fever as usual is credited by far the largest number of deaths, but the most noticeable feature in the returns is the appearance, for the first time, of the word "plague" of which disease, imported from Calcutta, there was a smart outbreak in September in two villages in Nalchiti thana, in Backergunge district, but which was happily stamped out by the vigorous measures taken. Sharp outbreaks of the disease from which the mortality will be shown in the current year's return took place in the first quarter of the current year (1899) in the Madaripur subdivision of the Faridpur district and in two thanas in the Dacca district, all directly traced to imported cases from Calcutta or Howrah. In all cases the measures taken prevented the spread of the disease beyond narrow limits.

24. The number of tanks and wells dug and repaired during 1898-99 by the several District Boards is shown below:—

District.		Number of tanks dug.	Number of new wells sunk.	Existing sources of water-supply repaired.
1		2	3	4
Dacca	...	1	51	52
Mymensingh	...	20	127	27
Faridpur	...	5	4	17
Backergunge	...	32	1	31
Total	...	58	183	127

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

25. The year has been one of good crops, fair prices and general prosperity throughout the Division. All traces of the evils wrought by scarcity and earthquake in the past have disappeared, and though plague made its appearance in a virulent form in three districts, the steps taken to prevent its spread were happily successful, and to the great bulk of the population its presence in their midst was probably unknown.

26. Mr. Roe, Collector of Mymensingh, writes of his district, and this is true of the whole Division:—

“The cultivating class is probably among the most prosperous in the Empire. The well-to-do raiyats’ income may be taken at between Rs. 200 and Rs. 300 a year, and the majority of the raiyats are well to do. The indigenous labouring class is practically non-existent. A few of the poorer raiyats labour in the fields, but almost the whole bulk of the manual labour of the district is done by immigrants from Bihar and the North-Western Provinces.”

27. Mr. Rankin of Dacca writes that the year under report may be regarded as one of prosperity, and adds that the traders, artisans and jute merchants fared well.

28. From Faridpur Mr. Temple reports the condition of the people as excellent, and remarks that:—

“Poverty, as it is known in Northern Europe, simply does not exist. The average of necessities and comforts is high. One can hardly help contrasting the lot of even the poorest raiyat with his comfortable thatched hut and little plot of garden with that of the denizen of a Manchester slum or the worker in a London dockyard on a cold day in January.”

29. Backergunge, the richest of the four districts, has alone not enjoyed its full share of the general prosperity. Mr. Beatson-Bell, the Collector, writes:—

“The crop, although good, was uneven. In the north the normal was exceeded, while in the south the crop was lamentably short in many places. This was owing to the ravages of an insect known as *pamari*. In some villages agricultural loans will be given to help the cultivators through the sowing season. They are in no sense starving. I saw a deputation of them yesterday, and they scornfully refused to work on a Local Board road. The middle classes on fixed incomes are more comfortable than they have been for some time, owing to the moderate price of provisions. The cultivators, on the other hand, have indulged in some grumbling for the same reason. Neither side has much to complain of at present.”

VII.—PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

34. Compared with the preceding two years, the prices of all articles of food fell considerably during the year under report owing to excellent harvests of last two years.

35. The price of common rice in the last six years in the last fortnight of March was:—

			S. CH.
1893-94	...	...	11 8½
1894-95	...	...	17 11
1895-96	...	...	13 12
1896-97	...	...	9 4½
1897-98	...	...	11 14½
1898-99	...	...	18 7½

36. The wages of labour have not been affected by the fall in the price of food.

VIII.—MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

37. There are no mines in the Division, and the manufactures are of small importance. Mill-made cloth is gradually driving the local weavers from their looms, and the rapidly growing taste for European pottery and enamelled iron-ware is depriving the local potters of their best customers. Outside competition has, however, not as yet affected the shell-workers in Dacca, nor the makers of embroidered *Kasidas*, who with the reedmat-makers, cane-workers, soap-makers and medicine compounders still find their industries profitable.

38. The only manufacture in which steam power is used in the Division is that of mustard-oil. There are two steam oil-mills, one at Dacca and the other at Jhalokati, and both are said to be paying concerns.

39. In the Dacca district there were 27 steam and 3 hand jute-presses at work during the year.

IX.—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

40. There was no change in the trade routes or trade centres of the Division during the year under report, except that the extension of the railway line from Mymensingh to Jamalpur was opened for traffic in October last. The extension of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, Central Section, to Faridpur, though completed during the year, was not opened to traffic till after its close. In Mymensingh the damage done to the roads by the earthquake of the 12th June 1897 has been for the most part repaired by the District Board, but only by opening lines of rail can the want of means of communication in that district, caused by the gradual silting up of the old Brahmaputra river and other smaller streams, be effectually removed.

41. The principal articles of import into this Division are, as reported in previous years, European piece-goods, cotton twists, rice, paddy, gram and pulse, molasses, sugar, salt, lime, timber, corrugated iron, kerosene oil, potatoes and conch-shells. The chief articles of export are jute and Dacca-made piece-goods, such as plain and striped muslins, kasida, jamdani and plain dhutis and chadars from the district of Dacca; jute and musked seed, hides, dried fish and ghee from the district of Mymensingh; rice, paddy, gram, pulses, jute, linseed, mustard seed and fishes from the district of Faridpur; and rice, betel-nut, cocoanut, timber, pulses, jute, molasses, chillies, linseed and mustard seed from the district of Backergunge.

42. It is very difficult to arrive at any correct estimate of the trade in the above articles, as a considerable portion of the traffic is carried on by means of large country boats, which do not pass through any registering centres. The statistics, now supplied by the Railway, the Calcutta Canal and the Nadia River authorities, and the statistics we get from the customs office at Narayanganj, the most important centre of trade in this Division, however, gives us a general idea of the course of trade.

43. In the port of Narayanganj there entered during the year under report 262 vessels with a tonnage of 30,090 as against 352 vessels with a tonnage of 42,370 in the preceding year, and the number of vessels cleared was 269 with a tonnage of 30,573 as against 368 vessels with a tonnage of 43,211 in 1897-98. The decrease is attributed to smaller export of jute to Chittagong during the year under report.

44. Of the vessels that entered the port, 121 were with cargo and 141 in ballast. The 121 vessels with cargo came from Chittagong, and of the 141 in ballast, 135 were from Chittagong, 2 from Coconada, 1 from Coringa, 1 from Masulipatam and 2 from Negapatam. The 269 vessels that cleared all went with cargo to Chittagong.

45. The following table shows a large increase in imports, but a still larger decrease in exports for the port, as compared with the preceding year:—

	1897-98.	1898-99.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4
Imports ...	Mds. 2,57,005*	Mds. 4,01,670	* These figures are not the same as given in last year's report. They have been taken from the printed report on the administration of Customs Department for the year 1897-98.
Exports ...	57,83,021	41,45,607	
Total ...	60,40,026*	45,47,277	

46. The statistics of the import trade of the port for the past two years are given below:—

ARTICLES.	1897-98.		1898-99.		REMARKS.
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.		Rs.	
Salt	Tons 10,682	92,320*	Tons 15,897½	1,80,954	* Less the value of 7,159 tons the value of which was not known (vide remarks in the last year's report).
Cotton	Cwt. 3,123	21,950	Cwt. 1,910	13,000	
Rice and paddy ...	" 19,849	1,05,127	" 517	3,126	
Jute	" 1,021	8,102	" 2,632	19,434	
Kerosene-oil ...	.....	.....	Gals. 275,417	1,66,175	
Timber	Tons 287	11,006	Tons 489	27,338	

47. The increase in the importation of salt is due to the opening of another bonded warehouse by * * * and increase in the importance of the port as a centre for the salt trade. The decrease in rice and paddy is due to an excellent crop in the district of Dacca during the year under report. The increase in jute is said to be due to damaged jute having been returned. The increase in timber is due to the decrease in price in Chittagong.

48. The following table compares the export trade of the port during the year under report with that of the previous year:—

ARTICLES.	1897-98.		1898-99.		REMARKS.
	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.		Rs.	
Chalk and lime ...	Cwt. 5,803	3,590	Cwt. 12,362	16,184	
Jute	" 817,339	55,24,172	" 529,368	39,53,874	
Salt	Tons 18	2,000	.....	.....
Gram	Cwt. 221	1,343	Cwt. 708	2,273	
Pulse	" 1,554	8,661	" 2,331	6,166	
Rice	" 6,687	31,435	" 7,322	21,263	
Paddy ... ..	.....	.....	" 548	800	
Metals (iron) ...	Cwt. 86	450	" 73	400	
Oil (other kinds) ...	Gals. 176	800	Gals. 2,404	3,119	
Kerosene	" 156,310	83,760	.....	.....
Ghee	lbs. 287	128	lbs. 986	440	
Mustard	Cwt. 8,347	42,324	Cwt. 5,946	27,572	
Other kinds of seeds ...	" 26	202	" 4	30	
Sugar refined	" 102	1,130	" 1,581	9,433	
Tobacco	lbs. 627,643	43,153	lbs. 508,320	32,611	

49. The decrease in jute is due to a smaller crop during the year under report. The variations in other articles are said to be due to differences in the prices ruling between Narayanganj and Chittagong.

50. The following statement prescribed by Government Circular No. 1 of 12th January 1899, shows the import and export trade of the Division as carried

on by rail, the Nadia rivers and the Calcutta canal in the 26 articles during the year under report, as compared with the previous year:—

IMPORTS.

ARTICLES.	By rail.		By Nadia rivers.		By canals.		Total.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Rice	Mds. 1,98,071	Mds. 95,171	Mds. 1,052	...	Mds. 5,500	Mds. 3,850	Mds. 2,02,083	Mds. 99,021
2. Paddy	3,24,399	1,58,945	2,030	...	61,520	6,105	3,87,949	1,64,050
3. Wheat	1,348	539	525	...	...	...	1,373	589
4. Gram and pulse	55,390	47,050	855	...	2,352	650	61,037	48,000
5. Other food-grains	107	1,577	...	...	...	...	907	1,637
6. Jute, raw	...	330	...	...	...	1,800	330	1,061
7. Gunny-bags	15,169	12,351	200	...	...	...	15,369	12,351
8. Linseed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Mustard seed	1,042	427	...	...	150	50	1,192	467
10. Tea, Indian	126	0	...	...	...	...	126	6
11. Cotton, raw	744	610	...	...	50	...	794	610
12. Silk, do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Sugar	24,474	10,515	...	...	1,040	650	25,514	11,465
14. Tobacco	1,96,512	1,49,113	...	...	6,325	800	2,02,837	1,49,913
	43	73	...	...	...	...	43	73
	6,290	3,981	200	...	745	310	7,235	4,291
15. Indigo	64	2	...	...	...	...	64	2
16. Cotton piece-goods.	1,90,968	80,068	...	...	370	112	1,91,338	80,180
	2,503	479	...	...	...	...	2,503	479
	2,022	1,370	...	5	...	...	2,022	1,375
	7	...	...	...	...	...	7	...
17. Cotton twist and yarn	48,001	14,332	...	...	102	80	48,083	14,412
	10,369	6,206	...	...	...	...	10,369	6,206
18. Salt	2,46,922	1,52,028	...	...	8,31,950	6,64,980	10,78,874	8,17,048
19. Kerosene-oil	84,384	22,105	725	...	2,67,437	2,10,002	3,52,536	2,32,097
20. Coal and coke	35,265	15,72,628	850	335	4,51,550	4,79,250	4,87,665	20,51,103

EXPORTS.

	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1. Rice	41,000	35,531	32	27,43,103	30,96,120	27,84,534	31,31,681
2. Paddy	4,400	2,709		11,100	37,776	15,606	30,384
3. Wheat	445	8,556				445	9,001
4. Gram and pulse	50,119	1,00,339	1,280	31,675	66,502	82,974	1,70,041
5. Other food-grains	15	3,050				15	3,660
6. Jute, raw	59,08,761	20,58,035		25,58,625	19,05,925	94,97,576	43,61,863
7. Gunny-bags	7,020	8,783				7,020	8,783
8. Linseed	35,777	55,305		10,992	23,700	52,700	78,605
9. Mustard seed	2,71,699	69,278		32,025	32,025	3,24,324	84,905
10. Tea, Indian	52	6				92	6
11. Cotton, raw	14,648	8,550		950	100	15,698	8,650
12. Silk, do.							
13. Sugar							
14. Tobacco							
15. Indigo							
16. Cotton piece-goods.							
17. Cotton twist and yarn							
18. Salt							
19. Kerosene-oil							
20. Coal and coke							

51. The decrease in import and the increase in export of rice, paddy, wheat and gram and pulse are both due to an excellent crop in almost all parts of the Division during the year under report. The large decrease in the export of jute is due to a very large decrease in the area sown, owing to the low prices of 1897. The reasons for the decrease in the export of mustard-seeds is not very clear, but presumably it was also due to a decrease in the area sown. No satisfactory explanation can be given of the fluctuation in the trade of other articles. The decrease in some cases of imports from, and exports to, Calcutta has been attributed to the outbreak of plague in Calcutta during the year under report.

52. Mr. Beatson-Bell, the Collector of Backergunge, gives the following interesting account of trade in rice of his district:—

“During the year, at the request of the Director of Land Records, I went into the question of rice exports at some length, and I finally arrived at the conclusion that the total outturn of normal year (*aman*, *aus* and *boro*) is 204 lakhs of maunds of rice, while the total local expenditure (food + reaper's share + seed) is 144 lakhs of maunds. Sixty lakhs of maunds are therefore available for export. About half of this now goes to Calcutta, and half to the north. The proportion which goes north has increased of late years. In the year 1898-99, the *aus* and *boro* crops were normal, but the *aman* crops, owing to the attacks of

insects, was only 87·5 per cent. of normal. Working on this basis, there was in 1898-99 an available surplus for export amounting to 41 lakhs of maunds. The short *aman* crop of 1898-99 did not, of course, make its effect felt in exports until January 1899. Simultaneously with the reaping of a short *aman* crop came a fall in the price of rice. The export trade, therefore, became very dull, and is still in that state. The canal figures show rice exports to Calcutta for the complete years to be—

1897-98	...	..	28 lakhs of maunds
1898-99	...	..	29 ditto

while the year, as a whole, thus shows a total increase of one lakh. The last three months (January to March) show a fall of nearly two lakhs. These are the figures for the Calcutta trade. If we double them, we shall get roughly the whole trade of the district—a total increase of two lakhs in the year, but a decline of four lakhs in the last three months.”

53. The price of coconuts in Backergunge was about Rs. 30 per thousand and that of betel-nuts was Rs. 8 per maund, against Rs. 38 and Rs. 10, respectively in 1897-98. The outturn was fair in both cases. There is at present no betel-nut plague in the district of Backergunge. It is estimated that about Rs. 25,000 worth of *sundari* wood was exported from the Sundarbans of that district during the year under report.

XI.—STATISTICAL ENQUIRIES.

59. No statistical enquiries of any importance were undertaken during the year under review, except that steps were taken towards completing and correcting statistics as to water-supply. Only in Backergunge, however, are approximate figures available. These are given below, and it is hoped that similar figures for wells and tanks will be available next year from the other districts in the Division:—

	NUMBER OF TANKS.		ONE WHOLESOME TANK TO—		REMARKS.
	Whole-some.	Unwhole-some.	Popula-tion.	Area in square miles.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Barisal Municipality ...	287	10	65	·08	
Pirojpur	362	264	38	·08	
Patuakhali	9	29	542	·38	
Jhalakati	22	2	107	·02	
Nalchiti	39	50	43	·04	
Sadar Subdivision ...	8,678	18,361	98	·12	
Pirojpur	4,447	12,190	116	·15	
Patuakhali	1,218	4,153	407	1·002	
Bhola	4,228	6,539	61	·14	
Total	19,540	41,597	112	·18	

The figures are very valuable to the District Board, as an indication of the localities where good water is most needed.

XIII.—CRIME.

69. The statements below show the variations, district by district, in crime (cognizable and non-cognizable) in the past two years. The figures for 1897 differ from those given in last year's report, especially under the head of cognizable. The difference is due chiefly to the exclusion of nuisance cases in compiling the figures for the last year. The figures now given are correct.

Statement of cognizable crimes for 1897 and 1898.

District.	1897.			1898.			INCREASE OR DECREASE AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR.			
	Cognizable crime, excluding conservancy cases.	Public and local nuisance cases.	Total of all cognizable crimes.	Cognizable crime, excluding conservancy cases.	Public and local nuisance cases.	Total of all cognizable crimes.	Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of increase.	Percentage of decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Dacca ...	4,828	1,634	5,967	4,227	1,647	5,874	...	83	...	1.39
Mymensingh ...	7,856	757	8,623	7,515	732	8,247	...	376	...	4.3
Faridpur ...	3,819	935	4,814	3,433	918	4,351	...	463	...	9.6
Backergunge ...	5,546	225	6,771	4,858	257	5,115	...	656	...	11.9
Total ...	21,554	3,611	25,165	20,033	3,554	23,587	...	1,578	...	7.2

70. Statement of non-cognizable cases for 1897 and 1898.

District.	1897.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of increase.	Percentage of decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dacca ...	6,064	6,283	219	...	3.6	...
Mymensingh ...	8,005	7,776	...	229	...	2.8
Faridpur ...	2,783	2,838	55	...	1.9	...
Backergunge ...	2,986	3,652	666	...	22.3	...
Total ...	19,838	20,549	711	229	3.5	...

71. The general decrease in cognizable and increase in non-cognizable crime is the resultant in the main of good crops and general increase in prosperity. Occasional thieves and burglars, relieved from the pressure of hard times, restricted their operations, and the total of thefts and burglaries fell from 9,826 to 8,556, but on the other hand funds were more plentiful and petty private injuries were aired before the Courts to a much greater extent, and the number of cases under class IV (minor offences against the person) rose from 11,382 to 11,901.

72. In serious crime the variations are shown below. The number of murders district by district were :—

	1897.	1898.
Dacca ...	9	8
Mymensingh ...	24	32
Backergunge ...	30	42
Faridpur ...	4	11
Total ...	67	93

In Backergunge the almost total immunity from gunshot murders continues (there was only one in the year), and as to the increase in the figures for murders in that district the Magistrate remarks :—

"If we add together murders, attempts to murder and culpable homicide, the year shows a decrease compared with the previous year. The courts at present show a tendency to class

cases as 'Murder with extenuating circumstances,' rather than 'Culpable homicide not amounting to murder.'"

Possibly this variation in classification accounts for the increase in Mymensingh and Faridpur also.

73. The figures for riots and unlawful assemblies given below show on the whole a decrease:—

			1897.	1898.
Dacca	...	...	152	117
Mymensingh	...	...	194	201
Backergunge	...	...	133	145
Faridpur	...	...	166	145
Total	...	...	645	608

The bulk of the cases are petty family or village squabbles, but agrarian riots instigated by influential men are still numerous, and special attention is being paid to their prevention.

74. Dacoities increased from 26 to 31. The district variations are shown below:—

DISTRICT.	Dacoity cases.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1897.	1898.		
1	2	3	4	5
Dacca	3	7	4	...
Mymensingh	8	13	5	...
Faridpur	12	9	...	3
Backergunge	3	2	...	1
Total	26	31	5	...

75. There were two regular gangs or two branches of the same gang at work along the Jamuna and Padma rivers, and their depredations account for the increase in Dacca and Mymensingh. Special Inspector Babu Kali Kishore Chaudhuri, whose success in breaking up the Faridpur gangs has practically cleared that district of dacoits, is now engaged in Mymensingh, and will, it is hoped, soon bring the gangs there to justice.

XIV.—POLICE.

76. The numerical strength of the regular police force was practically the same in 1898 as in the previous year; but there were numerous changes in the personnel, especially among the higher officers, which militated against constant and strict supervision, and tended to cause, and has, I am afraid, actually caused, deterioration in the discipline and general conduct of the force.

78. The police force, as a whole, was undoubtedly well conducted throughout the year.

79. It is satisfactory to note that, in particular in Mymensingh, the number of charges brought against the police by the public have decreased, and that no heinous offence has been proved against them.

80. *Additional and special police.*—During the year additional police forces to prevent agrarian riots were posted at Haturia in Backergunge and at Bahadurpur in Mymensingh, and in the latter district 10 special constables were appointed at Nandanpur and Konabari, in consequence of a quarrel between the owners of rival hâts.

81. *Rural police.*—The large chaukidari village system is now in force in Backergunge, Faridpur, Mymensingh and part of Dacca, and the current year will probably see it extended to the remainder of this district.

82. The success of the system depends mainly on the proper selection of dafadars. In Backergunge one dafadar is a Brahmin, and the rest for the most part respectable Musalmans and Namas. In Mymensingh, the original selection was badly made, but the staff is under revision, and the Magistrate hopes in a year or two to have only literate men of fairly good caste. In Faridpur, among the dafadars are 27 Brahmins, 88 Kayesths, 215 Musalmans, and one Christian; and in Dacca the enlistment of two Brahmins during the year makes the Magistrate hopeful for the future, and I believe if the large village system be extended, he will not be disappointed. The duties of the rural police have, as might be expected, been performed best where there are good dafadars, and worst where the dafadars are inefficient. For good conduct rewards have been given to—

649 men in the sum of Rs. 9,092-8	in Backergunge.
353 " " "	1,328 in Faridpur.
814 " " "	3,500-12 in Mymensingh.
266 " " "	1,742 in Dacca.

While punishments have been imposed on—

1,289 men in Backergunge.	1,024 men in Dacca.
1,299 " in Faridpur.	2,448 " in Mymensingh.

XV.—CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

83. There were 32,607 persons under trial during the year before the Courts in the Division. Of these, 31,177 were actually tried, and 18,514 convicted. The number under trial was largest in Mymensingh (10,498), and least in Faridpur (7,127). Dacca stood second with 7,811 and Backergunge third, with 7,171. Compared with the preceding year there was a decrease in the total of a little over one thousand. There was a large decrease in Backergunge of 1,252 and a small one in Mymensingh of 496, but Dacca shows an increase of 457, and Faridpur of 99. The fluctuations seem to be chiefly due to greater or less care taken to test complaints before issue of process, and to greater or less stringency in the measures taken to prevent breaches of the peace or commission of nuisances.

84. Of the persons tried, 661 were tried by the Courts of Session, 8,545 by Honorary Magistrates, and the remainder by Stipendiary Magistrates. Session work was heaviest in Mymensingh, where 224 persons were tried; Backergunge comes next with 195; Faridpur had 149, and Dacca only 95.

85. Honorary Magistrates tried 3,475 persons in Mymensingh, a little over 2,000 in Dacca, and about the same number in Faridpur, while in Backergunge they tried only 989.

86. Gentlemen, for the most part resident zamindars, fit to occupy the position of Honorary Magistrates, are to be found in Mymensingh and Dacca, not merely at the Sadar and subdivisional head-quarters, but at several outlying towns and villages; but in Backergunge and Faridpur most of the influential zamindars are non-resident, and except at the Sadar, and one or two subdivisional head-quarters the formation of competent Independent Benches of Magistrates is a difficulty the recognition of which accounts for the comparatively small number of persons tried by Honorary Magistrates in Backergunge, and the failure to recognise which accounts for the unsatisfactory work done by some of the Honorary Magistrates in Faridpur, whereas as the Magistrate reports, and as I found when inspecting, the working of several of the Benches of Magistrates has been far from satisfactory.

87. In the other districts the work done by Honorary Magistrates has, I am glad to report, been on the whole well done.

Attendance has been better than in previous years, and cases have been disposed of much more promptly.

88. The Stipendiary Magistrates to whose lot fell as usual the heaviest part of the criminal work, with one or two exceptions, performed their duties with zeal and discretion.

89. The number of cases which the District Magistrates show as false is 661 against 799 in the preceding year: but of the 661, it is probable that not 100 have been properly classed as false.

90. Mr. Bell, Magistrate of Backergunge, writes that of the 124 cases shown as false in his returns probably not 24 were without a substratum of truth.

XVI.—REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

93. The statement below shows the working of the Registration Department during the year under report as compared with that of the preceding year:—

DISTRICT.	Number of deeds registered in 1897-98.	Number of deeds registered in 1898-99.	1897-98.		1898-99.	
			Receipts.	Expenditure.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Dacca ...	38,670	42,693	45,541	24,213	61,805	25,152
Mymensingh ...	65,745	67,863	67,720	38,438	73,750	40,530
Faridpur ...	44,228	42,132	38,372	24,966	36,653	24,759
Backergunge ...	75,640	79,069	74,001	43,910	75,026	44,620
Total ...	2,27,283	2,31,747	2,26,634	1,31,527	2,37,294	135,061

94. All the districts, except Faridpur, show an increase, for which various, and in some cases conflicting, reasons are given in the district reports. New settlements by zamindars seem to have had the most effect in Dacca, where the increase is considerable. In the other districts the changes are small, and indeed the point most worthy of remark is the small variation in the figures from year to year.

95. The registration of 1,005 deeds was refused against 950 in 1897-98. In 47 cases criminal prosecutions were instituted, and 54 persons were brought to trial, 28 of whom were convicted. Of the remaining accused persons, 22 were discharged, 1 died and 3 are under trial. Three hundred and fifty deeds were impounded by the Sub-Registrars. Only three deeds were discredited by the Civil Court.

96. Faridpur, Backergunge and Mymensingh each report an instance of detection of forgery through thumb impressions. In a case in Backergunge the forger, when accused, tried to escape by rubbing his thumb on a brick to obliterate the markings; he was however convicted.

97. There has been an increase in the number of operations under Act I (B.C.) of 1876 (Voluntary Registration of Muhammadan marriages) in this Division during the year under report, the total number of marriages and divorces registered being 10,080 against 9,105 in the previous year. The increase is shared by the districts of Dacca, Mymensingh and Backergunge.

98. Mr. Roe observes that the popularity of the Muhammadan marriage registry offices still leaves much to be desired.

99. Mr. Beatson-Bell reports that the Act is said to have been fairly popular with the villagers, but unpopular with the Mollas.

XX.—STAMPS.

167. The total revenue derived from the sale of both judicial and non-judicial stamps during the year under report was Rs. 28,21,424 against Rs. 28,09,792 in the previous year, showing a net increase of Rs. 11,632, or 4.1 per cent. The increase was the result of excellent crops, increased prosperity and improvement in trade.

168. The number of cases of insufficiently-stamped or unstamped instruments detected during the year under report was 631 as compared with 596, and the duty and penalty realised in these cases amounted to Rs. 4,668 against Rs. 4,016 in the preceding year, showing a net increase of 35 cases and Rs. 652 on account of duty and penalty. Of these cases, 245 were detected by Civil Courts and 386 by Revenue Officers.

169. The number of prosecutions instituted for breach of stamp law during the year was 55 against 70 in the preceding year. Out of 81 persons brought to trial, 77 were convicted and 4 acquitted. Rupees 602 was imposed as fines and Rs. 64 disbursed as rewards to informers.

170. No case of fraudulent abstraction of court-fee labels and no case of defalcation was brought to light during the year under report.

171. During the year under review, 5 cases against the same number in the previous year were sent up from Backergunge in connection with short payment of stamp duty on probate and letters of administration. Out of these, in one case it was, on enquiry, found that the properties were not undervalued; in another the deficit duty was realised and the penalty remitted by the Board of Revenue, and the remaining three cases are under enquiry.

XXI.—INCOME-TAX.

172. There was no change in the mode of assessment in any of the districts of the Division. In the establishment employed, there was no change in the district of Dacca. The Assessors were changed in the districts of Mymensingh, Faridpur and Backergunge.

173. Out of 11,871 villages in the area selected for revision, 6,435 villages were actually visited by the Assessors and other officers during the year, as compared with 5,626 out of 8,859 villages in the preceding year. Besides the villages actually visited, the Assessors made enquiries regarding 3,025 other villages from the vicinity without actually visiting them, against 2,725 in the previous year.

174. The final demand of the year on account of the tax stood at Rs. 3,40,124 assessed on 12,728 persons, against Rs. 3,18,609 on 12,445 persons in the preceding year, showing a net increase of Rs. 21,515 and 283 persons. The bulk of the increase is in Dacca, and is in the main due to improvement in the jute trade.

175. The collection made during the year under report on account of tax alone was Rs. 3,37,609, as compared with Rs. 3,17,278 in the preceding year. The percentage of collections was 99·9 in Dacca, 98·3 in Mymensingh, 98·9 in Faridpur, and 99·8 in Backergunge. Coercive measures were resorted to in 459 cases against 447 in the previous year, but in only 53 cases was it found necessary to proceed to actual sale of the property of defaulters. The percentage of the cost of collection on the total collections was 3·8 against 4·3 in the preceding year.

176. In the table below are shown the proportion of persons assessed to population, and the incidence of tax in the several districts of the Division:—

DISTRICT.	Proportion of persons assessed to population.		Incidence of tax.		REMARKS.
1	2		3		4
	Asses- sees.	Per- sons.	Rs.	Persons.	
Dacca ...	1	to 781	1	to 23	
Mymensingh ...	1	to 852	1	to 33	
Faridpur...	1	to 616	1	to 33	
Backergunge ...	1	to 830	1	to 30	

177. Payment of income-tax by postal money-orders continues to advance in public favour, and is undoubtedly the easiest and safest mode of making remittances. No sum remitted by money-order was kept in revenue deposit for want of proper description in the money-order form.

178. No case of fraud or embezzlement was brought to light during the year under review. Nor was there any prosecution under Act II of 1886.

XXIII.—RAILWAY AND OTHER PUBLIC WORKS.

185. The gross receipts from the Dacca section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway during the year under report amounted to Rs. 5,59,347, against Rs. 5,56,220 in the previous year 1897-98. The increase is due to the extension of the railway line from Mymensingh to Jamalpur and improvement of trade.

186. The extension of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, Central section, to Faridpur was completed during the year, but opened for traffic in April 1899.

187. The Mymensingh-Jamalpur extension was opened for goods on the 15th October 1898 and for passengers on the 1st November 1898, and it is expected that the work on the unopened portion from Jamalpur to Jagannathganj will be completed by August.

188. The Government of India have lately sanctioned the undermentioned surveys as extension to the Dacca section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway:—

- (1) Mymensingh to Netrakona.
- (2) Sripur to Tangail.
- (3) Dacca to Tangail.
- (4) Left bank of the Jamuna (opposite Goalundo) to Dacca.

XXIV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

192. Below are given the usual statistics under this head. The length of roads in the Division is given below:—

DISTRICT.	DISTRICT ROADS.				Village roads.
	Embanked, bridged and metalled.	Embanked bridged but not metalled.	Not metalled and not bridged.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Dacca	7 5	206 0	63 5	277 2	277 7
Mymensingh	34 0	529 0	100 4	663 4	1,024 0
Faridpur	11 0	123 2	29 2	163 4	28 5
Backergunge	15 0	261 2	.....	276 2	438 2
Total, 1898-99 ...	67 5	1,119 4	193 8	1,380 4	2,361 6
Total, 1897-98 ...	65 3	1,124 6	183 5	1,373 6	2,337 0
Increase or decrease ...	+ 2 2	— 5 2	+ 9 3	+ 6 6	+ 24 6

193. The table below shows the expenditure incurred by the District Boards on communications (new works and repairs):—

DISTRICT BOARD.	New work.		Repair.	
	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Dacca	16,011	10,393	20,711	26,430
Mymensingh	35,822	39,594	74,387	62,749
Faridpur	22,118	5,011	10,626	8,999
Backergunge	73,956	55,265	36,128	31,136
Total ...	1,47,407	1,10,263	1,41,852	1,29,284

194. The expenditure on village roads is given in the subjoined table:—

DISTRICT.	1898-99.			1897-98.		
	Original works.	Repairs.	Total.	Original works.	Repairs.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Dacca ...	1,848	8,574	5,207	254	8,526	4,484
Mymensingh ...	20	18,733	18,753	4,093	14,164	18,257
Faridpur ...	4,047	6,424	10,511	2,345	8,976	6,321
Backergunge ...	23,785	86,839	60,574	17,121	21,913	39,034
Total ...	29,475	65,670	95,015	24,517	48,579	68,096

195. The number of ferries managed by different bodies in the Division is shown in the following statement:—

DISTRICT.	Under Government management.		Under District Board management.		Under Municipal management.		Total.	
	1898-99.	1897-98.	1818-99	1897-98.	1894-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dacca ...	2	2	72	70	4	4	78	76
Mymensingh ...	2	2	160	179	2	2	164	183
Faridpur ...	...	...	24	21	4	4	28	25
Backergunge ...	4	4	83	80	5	5	42	39
Total ...	8	8	289	300	15	15	312	323

Some of the ferries in Mymensingh have been closed on account of the upheaval of the river beds by the earthquake and others as the result of construction of new bridges.

196. The steam-ferry between Narayanganj and Munshiganj continued to be managed by the District Board of Dacca, and was farmed out as usual.

XXVI.—EDUCATION.

205. The number of public institutions, which are schools of organised instruction, teaching the various standards prescribed by the Education Department, increased by 140 from 8,432 to 8,572, and their pupils by 8,993 from 229,073 to 238,066. Of the total pupils at school, 222,843 were boys and 15,223 were girls. Besides the public institutions there were 3,188 private institutions (such as tols, mukhtabs, Koran schools, etc., that do not teach the departmental standards) with 35,956 pupils. There was a loss of 441 schools and of 1,629 pupils in this class. The decline is confined mostly to Koran schools, which are schools of no educational value.

206. Of the boys of school-going age in the Division, 34.1 per cent., and of girls 2.4 per cent., are actually at school. The corresponding percentages in the preceding year were 32.9 and 2.6 respectively.

207. The total expenditure on education increased by Rs. 32,989, the increase in contribution from public sources being Rs. 9,964 only and that from private sources Rs. 23,025. The contribution from public sources formed 30.2 per cent. of the total expenditure, the Government share being only 14.3 per cent. The percentages in the previous year were 30.2 and 14.1 respectively. There was an increase of Rs. 6,528 in the total Government expenditure, which was due mainly to a Government contribution of Rs. 5,000 towards the cost of a boarding-house for Muhammadans at Barisal. The

expenditure from District Funds increased by Rs. 3,474, while that from municipalities remained nearly the same as in the previous year.

208. There was a remarkable increase in the number of high schools by 5 in Backergunge, 3 in Faridpur and 3 in Dacca, a proof of the great and rapidly increasing demand for higher education in Eastern Bengal. Of the 62 high schools now in existence, the great majority pay their own way and their efficiency is manifest from the fact that all excepting those that were opened during the year sent up pupils who successfully competed at the Entrance examination. Out of a total of 937 candidates sent up, 595, or 63·5 per cent., were successful, 159 in the first, 294 in the second, and 142 in the third division. The Government schools, as usual, obtained the best results, the Dacca Collegiate School taking the first place, and the Barisal Zilla School the second, but some of the private institutions were not far behind. The apprehension that the Barisal Zilla School would deteriorate under the management of the Joint-Committee has proved to be unfounded.

209. Middle English schools increased from 192 to 202, but middle vernacular schools decreased from 282 to 269, as the direct result of the withdrawal of the privilege of appearing at the Mukhtarship examination from passed students of these institutions. At the Middle English Scholarship examination 91 per cent. of the competing schools and 80 per cent. of the competing candidates were successful; at the Middle Vernacular examination, the percentages of competing schools and candidates were 85 and 67 respectively.

210. Upper primary schools increased from 909 to 943, and the lower primaries from 6,310 to 6,391. At the upper primary examination 71·1 per cent. of the competing schools and 53·6 per cent. of the competing candidates were successful; the corresponding figures for the lower primary examination were 57·5 and 35·5.

211. The number of girls' schools decreased by 142 from 1,042 to 900 and their pupils by 1,609 from 13,198 to 11,589. There were more than half as many girls in boys' schools as in girls' schools, and this raised the total number of female children under instruction to 17,767. The Eden Female School at Dacca is the only Government institution for girls; it had 130 girls on its rolls (of whom 105 were Hindus, 20 Brahmos, 4 Christians and 1 Muhammadan), and cost Rs. 6,800 to Government. It passed 2 girls at the upper primary examination and 2 at the lower primary examination, but sent in no candidates for any higher examination.

212. Eleven girls passed the middle vernacular examination, 10 from Backergunge and 1 from Mymensingh; 28 girls passed the upper primary and 245 girls the lower primary examination.

213. There were 80 special schools in the Division, the training school, the survey school, the Government medical school and Homœopathic school, all in the town of Dacca, two industrial schools, one at Mymensingh and the other at Barisal, and 74 tols transferred for the first time from the class "private" to "public" schools.

214. The Medical School is a very useful and popular institution, but neither of the industrial schools answers expectations; and the Dacca Survey School, though passed pupils readily find employment, has lost in popularity so much that its roll number now (144) is less than half what it was two years ago.

215. The Madrassa at Dacca had 553 pupils against 491 in the previous year. It cost Rs. 17,395, of which the Mohsin Fund contributed Rs. 13,674.

216. The number of Muhammadans under instruction increased by 3,781 from 133,657 to 137,438. The Muhammadans constitute 65·3 per cent. of the total population, but the percentage of Muhammadans at school to total school population is 50·2 against 50·1 of the previous year. At the lower primary examination, the Muhammadans were fairly successful, 1,180 pupils, or 28·8 per cent. of the total successful candidates, being of that religion, but at higher examinations they were less successful, the percentages being at the upper primary examination 19·2, at the middle examination 12·2, and at the Entrance examination only 4·4.

XXVII.—DISPENSARIES AND HOSPITALS.

217. There were 88 dispensaries open during the year—an increase of three as compared with the preceding year, and the number of patients treated rose from 552,971 to 603,749. The increase in patients was shared by all the districts in the Division, but that in the number of dispensaries and hospitals was in Backergunge alone. In all districts much was done to improve the existing institutions. In Dacca a new ward, styled the "Johnson Ward," in memory of my predecessor, Mr. Luttman-Johnson, and erected at the expense of Raja Rajendra Narain Ray Bahadur of Bhowal, was added to the Mitford Hospital for the treatment of women of the respectable classes.

218. In Nasirabad (Mymensingh) the "Mackenzie" Eye Ward was completed, and at Faridpur the new dispensary building was completed.

219. In outlying dispensaries numerous improvements have been effected, and the institutions are on the whole well managed and useful, but in some instances the want of effective control over those maintained at the cost of the District Boards and Municipalities is apparent, and to remedy this steps have been taken to place these dispensaries, wherever it has been found practicable to do so, under local Committees, who will, it is hoped, be able to supplement the fixed allowance for maintenance granted by District Boards or Municipalities by local subscriptions, and enhance both the efficiency and usefulness of the institutions.

220. It is especially satisfactory to note that attention has been paid to improvement of facilities for female patients. I have mentioned above the new ward for respectable females at the Mitford Hospital. In Backergunge separate rooms for the examination and treatment of female patients have been added to 14 dispensaries and in Mymensingh arrangements were made so that at each subdivisional head-quarters there was either a Lady Doctor or a trained midwife throughout the year.

221. The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the dispensaries of this Division, district by district:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	INCOME FROM—				Total.	Expendi- ture.
	Municipal grant.	District fund.	Govern- ment.	Local sub- scription.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Dacca ...	13,583	2,809	1,019	27,886	45,359	33,832
Mymensingh ...	7,084	6,794	1,118	24,848	43,844	43,093
Faridpur ...	2,494	5,547	2,085	8,905	21,367*	18,609
Backergunge ...	2,000	15,085	2,221	5,293	26,904*	25,553
Total ...	25,163	30,295	6,443	71,017	1,37,474	1,21,089

* Including last year's cash balance { Faridpur ... Rs. 2,280
Backergunge ... Rs. 2,300

XXVIII.—LIBRARIES.

222. The office libraries at the Sadar and subdivisions of all the districts of this Division are reported to be in good order and the books to be in a good state of

Office Library. preservation. The revision of the catalogues of the Sadar libraries has been completed at Dacca. Mymensingh and Backergunge during the year under report, and useless and superfluous books in the libraries have been disposed of.

223. The following are the important public libraries in this Division:—

- (1) The Northbrook Hall Library and reading room in the town of Dacca founded in 1882. This is the principal public library in the Division, and contains 3,797 volumes.
- (2) The Railway Institute Library at Dacca, founded in October 1885, contains 1,139 volumes.

expenditure from District Funds increased by Rs. 3,474, while that from municipalities remained nearly the same as in the previous year.

208. There was a remarkable increase in the number of high schools by 5 in Backergunge, 3 in Faridpur and 3 in Dacca, a proof of the great and rapidly increasing demand for higher education in Eastern Bengal. Of the 62 high schools now in existence, the great majority pay their own way and their efficiency is manifest from the fact that all excepting those that were opened during the year sent up pupils who successfully competed at the Entrance examination. Out of a total of 937 candidates sent up, 595, or 63·5 per cent., were successful, 159 in the first, 294 in the second, and 142 in the third division. The Government schools, as usual, obtained the best results, the Dacca Collegiate School taking the first place, and the Barisal Zilla School the second, but some of the private institutions were not far behind. The apprehension that the Barisal Zilla School would deteriorate under the management of the Joint-Committee has proved to be unfounded.

209. Middle English schools increased from 192 to 202, but middle vernacular schools decreased from 282 to 269, as the direct result of the withdrawal of the privilege of appearing at the Mukhtarship examination from passed students of these institutions. At the Middle English Scholarship examination 91 per cent. of the competing schools and 80 per cent. of the competing candidates were successful; at the Middle Vernacular examination, the percentages of competing schools and candidates were 85 and 67 respectively.

210. Upper primary schools increased from 909 to 943, and the lower primaries from 6,310 to 6,391. At the upper primary examination 71·1 per cent. of the competing schools and 53·6 per cent. of the competing candidates were successful; the corresponding figures for the lower primary examination were 57·5 and 35·5.

211. The number of girls' schools decreased by 142 from 1,042 to 900 and their pupils by 1,609 from 13,198 to 11,589. There were more than half as many girls in boys' schools as in girls' schools, and this raised the total number of female children under instruction to 17,767. The Eden Female School at Dacca is the only Government institution for girls; it had 130 girls on its rolls (of whom 105 were Hindus, 20 Brahmans, 4 Christians and 1 Muhammadan), and cost Rs. 6,800 to Government. It passed 2 girls at the upper primary examination and 2 at the lower primary examination, but sent in no candidates for any higher examination.

212. Eleven girls passed the middle vernacular examination, 10 from Backergunge and 1 from Mymensingh; 28 girls passed the upper primary and 245 girls the lower primary examination.

213. There were 80 special schools in the Division, the training school, the survey school, the Government medical school and Homœopathic school, all in the town of Dacca, two industrial schools, one at Mymensingh and the other at Barisal, and 74 tols transferred for the first time from the class "private" to "public" schools.

214. The Medical School is a very useful and popular institution, but neither of the industrial schools answers expectations; and the Dacca Survey School, though passed pupils readily find employment, has lost in popularity so much that its roll number now (144) is less than half what it was two years ago.

215. The Madrassa at Dacca had 553 pupils against 491 in the previous year. It cost Rs. 17,395, of which the Mohsin Fund contributed Rs. 13,674.

216. The number of Muhammadans under instruction increased by 3,781 from 133,657 to 137,438. The Muhammadans constitute 65·3 per cent. of the total population, but the percentage of Muhammadans at school to total school population is 50·2 against 50·1 of the previous year. At the lower primary examination, the Muhammadans were fairly successful, 1,180 pupils, or 28·8 per cent. of the total successful candidates, being of that religion, but at higher examinations they were less successful, the percentages being at the upper primary examination 19·2, at the middle examination 12·2, and at the Entrance examination only 4·4.

XXVII.—DISPENSARIES AND HOSPITALS.

217. There were 88 dispensaries open during the year—an increase of three as compared with the preceding year, and the number of patients treated rose from 552,971 to 603,749. The increase in patients was shared by all the districts in the Division, but that in the number of dispensaries and hospitals was in Backergunge alone. In all districts much was done to improve the existing institutions. In Dacca a new ward, styled the "Johnson Ward," in memory of my predecessor, Mr. Luttmann-Johnson, and erected at the expense of Raja Rajendra Narain Ray Bahadur of Bhowal, was added to the Mitford Hospital for the treatment of women of the respectable classes.

218. In Nasirabad (Mymensingh) the "Mackenzie" Eye Ward was completed, and at Faridpur the new dispensary building was completed.

219. In outlying dispensaries numerous improvements have been effected, and the institutions are on the whole well managed and useful, but in some instances the want of effective control over those maintained at the cost of the District Boards and Municipalities is apparent, and to remedy this steps have been taken to place these dispensaries, wherever it has been found practicable to do so, under local Committees, who will, it is hoped, be able to supplement the fixed allowance for maintenance granted by District Boards or Municipalities by local subscriptions, and enhance both the efficiency and usefulness of the institutions.

220. It is especially satisfactory to note that attention has been paid to improvement of facilities for female patients. I have mentioned above the new ward for respectable females at the Mitford Hospital. In Backergunge separate rooms for the examination and treatment of female patients have been added to 14 dispensaries and in Mymensingh arrangements were made so that at each subdivisional head-quarters there was either a Lady Doctor or a trained midwife throughout the year.

221. The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the dispensaries of this Division, district by district:—

NAME OF DISTRICT.	INCOME FROM—				Total.	Expenditure.
	Municipal grant.	District fund.	Government.	Local subscription.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Dacca ...	13,585	2,879	1,019	27,886	45,359	33,832
Mymensingh ...	7,084	6,794	1,118	24,448	43,844	43,093
Faridpur ...	2,494	5,547	2,085	8,945	21,367*	18,609
Backergunge ...	2,000	15,085	2,221	5,293	26,904*	25,553
Total ...	25,163	30,295	6,443	71,017	1,37,474	1,21,089

* Including last year's cash balance { Faridpur ... Rs. 2,256
Backergunge ... Rs. 2,300

XXVIII.—LIBRARIES.

222. The office libraries at the Sadar and subdivisions of all the districts of this Division are reported to be in good order and the books to be in a good state of preservation. The revision of the catalogues of the Sadar libraries has been completed at Dacca. Mymensingh and Backergunge during the year under report, and useless and superfluous books in the libraries have been disposed of.

223. The following are the important public libraries in this Division:—

- (1) The Northbrook Hall Library and reading room in the town of Dacca founded in 1882. This is the principal public library in the Division, and contains 3,797 volumes.
- (2) The Railway Institute Library at Dacca, founded in October 1885, contains 1,139 volumes.

Board's meetings. If thought desirable, the number of the District Board's members might be increased. When the Subdivisional Officer is Chairman, so far as my experience goes, Local Boards do a certain amount of good work. * * *"

234. Mr. Beatson Bell, Officiating Magistrate of Backergunge, writes:—

"The District Board worked in a smooth and businesslike manner throughout the year. The Vice-Chairman, Rai Dwarka Nath Dutt, Bahadur, and his *locum tenens*, Babu Rajani Kanta Das, both rendered great service to the public at considerable personal sacrifice to themselves."

235. On the whole, the District Boards are useful institutions, but the utility of Local Boards, unless presided over by the Subdivisional Officers, is practically limited to supplying *sinecure* posts for incompetent clerks and providing a medium for payment of money supposed to be spent on village roads.

236. For the most part non-official Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen have neither the time nor the inclination to inspect Local Boards' works at a distance from head-quarters, and, with rare exceptions, such works are carried out in a slovenly and costly manner. With the Subdivisional Officer as Chairman, Local Boards can be of practical use if the members restrict themselves to advice and leave the executive part of the work to the Chairman who, in the course of his annual tour, has to visit every place of importance in his subdivision, and is, indeed, the only person who is in a position to see that any work, which is undertaken, is properly executed.

Municipalities.

237. The constitution of the Municipal Committees of this Division is shown below:—

PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION OF MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS.	MUNICIPALITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF—				Total.
	Dacca.	Mymensingh.	Faridpur.	Backergunge.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Government servants ...	6	14	6	9	35
2. Ditto pensioners ...	...	1	...	...	1
3. Zamindars and other landholders ...	8	25	3	8	44
4. Pleaders and Mukhtars ...	6	34	13	14	67
5. Merchants, traders and money-lenders ...	7	3	2	10	22
6. Medical practitioners ...	2	8	...	3	13
7. School-masters other than Government servants.	...	10	1	3	14
8. Unspecified ...	4	14	5	7	30
Total ...	33	109	30	54	226

239. As to the working of the municipalities in Dacca, Mr. J. T. Rankin, Officiating Magistrate of Dacca, writes:—

"Narayanganj is still a model municipality. For the greater part of the year, Mr. Morgan was Chairman, and he is deserving of all praise for his zeal and able management. Dacca is the antithesis of Narayanganj. Nothing is ever done, except what can be carried out by the Chairman alone. Great credit is due to Khajeh Mohamed Yusuff, the present Chairman, for what he has accomplished single-handed in the way of opening out sweepers' passages. But the members fail to back him up: they oppose nearly every proposal for the welfare of the town. Many parts are still in a filthy condition. Sweepers and carts are insufficient. The roads are bad. The management of the water-works is a disgrace, and the Commissioners refuse to listen to advice regarding them."

240. On the working of the municipalities in Mymensingh, Mr. F. Roe, the Magistrate, writes:—

"The municipalities of this district have, on the whole, worked fairly well. The funds at their disposal are so small that much cannot be expected of them. * * *"

241. Mr. K. C. De, the Magistrate of Faridpur, has quoted the following remarks left by his predecessor, Mr. Temple, on the municipalities in the district:—

"The Faridpur Municipality appears to be smoothly and successfully managed. * * *. I am tired of inspecting the Madaripur Municipality * * *. The town has been held up for years past by every inspecting officer as an example of what municipal management should not be. A new era of thing arose about December 1897, since which date there have been some signs of activity. * * *."

242. Mr. Beatson Bell, Magistrate of Backergunge, writes on the working of the municipalities in his district:—

"The municipalities worked well on the whole; the exception is Nalohiti where internal quarrels prevail. Matters became so bad that I had once to have recourse to the extreme provision of section 63 in order to save the municipal doctor from a summary and illegal dismissal at the hands of a factious majority who suspected that the doctor was on good terms with the minority."

243. I have little to add to what the Magistrates have placed on record. In all the municipalities, and in particular in Dacca, Narayanganj, and Barisal, the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen have worked heartily for the improvement of their towns, and, with the one glaring exception of Dacca, have in general received the well deserved support of their brother Commissioners. As to Dacca, I fully endorse all the Magistrate has said. Opposition to all reforms is apparently the watchword of the elected members, and if their aim be to prove that Dacca is not ripe for the elective system, they may congratulate themselves on their success.

XXXIII(a).—FAIRS.

261. The following are the important fairs held during the year under report in this Division:—

Dacca	...	...	1. Kartik-Baruni.
Mymensingh	...	...	2. Jhulan <i>mêla</i> .
Faridpur	...	...	3. Jamalpur <i>mêla</i> .
		...	4. Faridpur <i>mêla</i> .
		...	5. Kalisuri <i>mêla</i> .
Backergunge	...	...	6. Lakutia fair.
		...	7. Kalaskati fair.

262. The Kartik-Baruni fair was, as usual, held on the south bank of the Dhaleswari river close to the head-quarters of the Munshiganj subdivision, and lasted for two months and 15 days from 12th December 1898. Necessary arrangements were made by the Local Board under the supervision of the Subdivisional Officer of Munshiganj. The number of people who visited the fair was estimated at 107,325 as against 110,680 in the previous year. The value of goods brought for sale and of goods actually sold were respectively Rs. 12,17,725 and Rs. 7,35,415, as compared with Rs. 11,40,700 and Rs. 7,75,600 in the preceding year. There was no epidemic of any kind.

263. The Nangulbund fair of Dacca did not fall during the year under report.

264. The Jhulan *mêla* was held within the Kishorganj Municipality, and lasted for two months. The daily average attendance was 250. The Jamalpur *mêla* was held within the Jamalpur Municipality. It commenced a little earlier than usual this year, viz., on 15th of January 1899, and closed on 18th April 1899. Five thousand five hundred and fifty head of cattle were offered for sale in the year under review against 4,573 in the previous year. Rupees 3,121 was realised as fees at the rate of 9 annas per head of cattle. About 4,000 people assembled in the *mêla*. The proprietors of the *mêlas* made satisfactory sanitary arrangements.

265. The Faridpur *mêla* lasted for one and-a-half months. The average daily number of people who visited the *mêla* was estimated at 500. Sanitary arrangements were made. No epidemic disease broke out.

266. The Kalisuri *mêla*, the Lakutia fair and the Kalashati fair did not last for more than a fortnight. The visitors chiefly belong to the neighbouring villages and return to their homes at night. Necessary sanitary arrangements were made, and there was no outbreak of disease.

* * * * *

XXXVII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

279. The year was one of general prosperity, crops were excellent, food was cheap, trade flourished and crime decreased. There was improvement in education and advance in sanitation. Hospitals increased in number and efficiency. Much was done to improve the supply of good drinking-water. The public health was good and plague which threatened to establish itself in our midst was stamped out.

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY GOVERNMENT TO
INSPECT THE BUILDINGS, ROADS, AND DRAINS IN AND AROUND
DARJEELING AFTER THE LANDSLIPS OF 24TH SEPTEMBER 1899,
AND TO SUGGEST MEASURES CALCULATED TO PREVENT LAND-
SLIPS IN DARJEELING AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN THE FUTURE.

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.—MUNICIPAL.

Calcutta, the 27th November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 5161M.

In Government Resolution No. 4901M., dated the 3rd October 1899, a Committee consisting of—

Mr. D. Joscelyne, Chief Engineer to the Government of Bengal	...	<i>President,</i>
„ A. Earle, Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling	...	
„ H. N. C. Clöete, Superintending Engineer, Northern Circle,	...	
„ A. S. Thomson, Executive Engineer	...	<i>Members,</i>
„ A. E. Silk, Sanitary Engineer	...	
„ Edmond Upton, Solicitor	...	
„ S. H. Shaw, Municipal Commissioner, Darjeeling	...	
„ John White,	...	
„ F. Stuart Menteth, Engineer, Darjeeling Municipality,	...	

was appointed to inspect the buildings, roads, and drains in and round the town of Darjeeling after the disaster of the 24th September 1899, to give such assistance and advice to the residents as might, under the circumstances, be useful, and to suggest any measures which might seem best calculated to prevent the occurrence of landslips in Darjeeling in the future, and to confine the damage done by them, should they be inevitable, within as narrow limits as possible.

The following gentlemen were subsequently added to the Committee:—

Mr. E. R. Gardiner, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department	...	<i>Member and Secretary.</i>
Mr. H. Lee, Military Works Department	...	<i>Member.</i>

Messrs. A. E. Wild, Conservator of Forests, Bengal, S. B. Carey, Manager Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway, and T. H. Holland, of the Geological Survey Department, were requested to assist the Committee with their professional advice. The Committee have now submitted their Report, which is published below for general information. The Report is under the consideration of Government, and it is proposed shortly to introduce legislation in order to give effect to such of the Committee's proposals as may be approved.

2. The thanks of Government are due to the President and Members of the Committee for their very practical and valuable Report, and to the gentlemen who assisted them in their enquiries.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

E. N. BAKER,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Dated Darjeeling, the November 1899.

From—D. JOSCELYNE, Esq., Chief Engineer, Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Municipal Department.

WITH reference to the Resolution of the Government of Bengal, No. 4901M., dated 3rd October 1899, appointing a Committee to inspect and report upon buildings, roads and drains at Darjeeling, I have the honour to submit, for the information of Government, a copy of the report of that Committee, together with detailed proceedings of the several meetings and other appendices explanatory of and illustrating the work and recommendations of the Committee.

2. The work of the Committee extended over four weeks, the first meeting being held on Monday, the 1st October, and the last on Saturday, 4th of November. There were thus in all 19 meetings of the full Committee, besides numerous Special Sub-Committee meetings, to determine technical matters of law and engineering procedure. The work of outdoor inspections was arduous, covering upwards of four hours daily, and I desire to commend the zeal and energy of the members in these and other matters to the notice of Government. The names of Messrs. Holland, Wild, and Cary have been specially mentioned in the final report. I desire here to mention also Mr. Gardiner, whose labours as Secretary to the Committee have been arduous and indefatigable.

3. I am glad to be able to say that the conclusions in the report are those of a unanimous Committee. The proceedings of the last meeting show that the question of municipal control, when the proposed new Act will come into force, was duly considered.

Report of a Committee appointed, under the orders contained in Resolution of the Government of Bengal, No. 4901M., dated 3rd October 1899, to inspect the buildings, roads, and drains in and around the town; to give assistance and advice to the residents as may under the circumstances be useful, and subsequently to suggest any measures which may seem best calculated to prevent the occurrence of landslips in Darjeeling in the future, and to confine the damage done by them, should they be inevitable, within as narrow limits as possible.

THE Committee was composed as follows:—

Mr. D. Joscelyne, Chief Engineer, Bengal	...	President.
„ A. Earle, Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling	}	Members.
„ H. N. C. Clöete, Superintending Engineer		
„ A. S. Thomson, Executive Engineer, Darjeeling.		
„ A. E. Silk, Sanitary Engineer		
„ E. Upton, Solicitor		
„ S. H. Shaw, Municipal Commissioner, Darjeeling.		
„ John White, Municipal Commissioner, Darjeeling		
„ F. Stuart Menteth, Municipal Engineer, Darjeeling.		

Under subsequent orders of Government, the following officers were added to the Committee:—

Mr. H. Lee, Subdivisional Officer, Military Works Department.

Mr. E. R. Gardiner, Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department (to be also Secretary to the Committee).

The services of Mr. T. H. Holland, Superintendent, Geological Survey, were kindly placed at the disposal of the Bengal Government in connection with this enquiry. The Committee is greatly indebted to Mr. Holland for the valuable assistance cordially furnished throughout its proceedings. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Report are specially the result of his enquiries.

Mr. A. E. Wild, Conservator of Forests, and Mr. S. B. Cary, General Manager and Chief Engineer, Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway, have from time to time been good enough to attend the meetings, and have greatly assisted the Committee's investigations.

2. A preliminary meeting was held on the 9th of October, at which the order and manner of the detailed inspection of the town, section by section, was determined.

The resolution passed at this meeting and the proceedings of the subsequent meetings will be found in Appendix No. 1 to this Report.

3. The town of Darjeeling is situated on the spur which projects to the north from the Singalila-Senchal Range of mountains. It begins at Jore Bungalow to the south, and, including the Jellapahar and Katapahar Cantonments, extends to a point on the road to Tukvar below St. Joseph's College on the north. On the east it is bounded by the Calcutta Road and a strip of land below it. The boundary line then runs past and below the Chowrasta and the Bhutia Busti, taking in the said Busti and the Lebong Cantonment, until it joins the boundary below St. Joseph's College. On the west it is bounded by the Cart Road and a strip of land below it, the boundary line continuing past and below the Bazar through the Happy Valley Tea Estate, until it reaches the boundary below St. Joseph's College above referred to. The total area of the town, including the Katapahar, Jellapahar and Lebong Cantonments, is 5 square miles. The mean length of the town from south to north is approximately 5 miles, and its mean breadth is roughly about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The population is, according to the census of the year 1891, 14,145, including the Katapahar, Jellapahar and Lebong Cantonments, or, excluding the same, 13,136. As, however, the census was taken in the month of February, when the town is comparatively empty, the above figures do not in any way represent the population during the summer months, March to October, when it may be estimated at fully 20,000, including the cantonments. If the figure 20,000 be taken, the number of Europeans and natives may be estimated at 2,500 and 17,500, respectively.

Except at Jore Bungalow and in the Government forests of Birch Hill and Lebong, European houses are situated wherever good sites are found, while the native *bustis* (10 in number) and their population are as follows, beginning from the south:—

Name.	Approximate population.
(1) Jore Bungalow <i>busti</i> on the south	400
(2) Ghoom ditto	900
(3) Alubari <i>busti</i> on the east	600
(4) Toongsoong ditto	80
(5) Bhutia ditto	500
(6) Kaloo Singh's <i>busti</i> on the north	300
(7) Limboo ditto	150
(8) Prodhan's <i>busti</i> on the west	750
(9) Kāg jhora ditto	250
(10) Batasia ditto	40

The number of deaths owing to the landslips which occurred on the 24th and 25th September 1899 in the town of Darjeeling was 72, the victims in 10 cases being European children, and in 62 cases natives. The deaths of Europeans occurred only on the east slopes below Observatory Hill and the Mall Road, 6 occurring at 2 Mall Villas and 4 at Ida Villa in the same locality. The deaths of natives occurred as follows:—

No. 2 Mall Villas	2
Ida Villa	2
Arcadia School	7
No. 4 Mall Villas	1
The Parsonage	2
Toongsoong <i>busti</i>	11
Richmond Villa	2
Pekoe Tip	4
Jellapahar Cantonment	4
Newstead House	5
Native School below the Presbytery	6
Kaloo Singh's <i>busti</i>	3
Singunpore, the <i>busti</i> of Babu Hari Das Prodhan, or Prodhan's <i>busti</i>	8
Roadside Villa	10
Total	62

to the general foliation of the area in which they occur. The reliance to be placed on boulders must be limited naturally by the frictional stability of the earth in which they are embedded.

The common form of earth on the slopes of Darjeeling repose at an angle of 41° when damp, and for short vertical intervals may be found standing at higher inclinations when held together by roots; but earth slopes of 41° must be regarded as decidedly unsafe and liable to slide on the access of water. Observations on the numerous slips which followed the unprecedented heavy rain of September 24th and 25th show that such slopes generally fall to an angle of 38° or 39° .

5. The landslips which recently occurred in such great numbers in Darjeeling were entirely confined to the soil-cap—the class known to the Swiss Geologists as *Schuttstünze*. As usual they probably commenced as soil-cap creeps (*Schuttrutschungen*), but the heavy rain which immediately preceded the slips was so very excessive and sudden that the whole series of phenomena from the preliminary creep to the final catastrophe followed one another too rapidly to permit diagnosis of the usual premonitory warnings which precede all landslips. In many instances the slips can be traced to a preliminary fall of earth on to a high level road, thereby blocking a drain and turning a large stream of water down the unprotected hill-face. In these instances, however, the slips in the lower part of the hill partake of the nature of a very rapid scour, reaching the foot as a river of mud and boulders.

Although it is true that the cause of the slips recently examined can be immediately traced to the heavy rain of September 24th-25th (*infra* section 6), it must not be forgotten—and this is a lesson of permanent value to all hill stations—that the necessary facilities have been in the course of gradual development for many years. The soil-cap is the direct product of the atmospheric decomposition of the rocks, and through the action of percolating meteoric waters is in process of continual growth at the superficial expense of the latter. The removal of soil from the surface by the mechanical action of running water, and the simultaneous addition of decomposition products below the sub-soil by the chemical activity of percolating water are not concurrently compensatory in slopes covered with vegetation: there is a balance in favour of the latter process which is periodically restored by slips from the surface. The formation of a soil-cap does not in itself contribute to an increase in the surface slope, but its removal from the foot of a slope by streams, which there acquire a greater erosive activity through increased velocity and volume, increases the average slope of the hillside. Such active undermining of the foot of a hill may be seen in a marked degree at the junction of two *ghoras*, as, for instance, below the spur separating the two first branches of the Kág *ghora*, or where a river like the Rungnú cuts a line parallel to the lower contours of the hill. The increase in the angle of a slope by the undermining action of a river is supplemented by the slow process of creep which proceeds step-fashion in every inclined soil-cap with the regular succession of wet and dry seasons. The expansion which follows the saturation of a soil-cap during each monsoon naturally takes place in the direction of least resistance, which is down the hill-side. The desiccation which follows in the succeeding dry season merely makes a pause in this movement—not a return to original conditions. Such a ratchet and pawl kind of creep downwards and outwards proceeds until the conditions of stability are exceeded, and a landslide occurs to restore equilibrium. It is delusive, therefore, to suppose that because a slope has apparently withstood the action of twenty monsoons, the absence of accident is an index to its stability and an insurance against danger in the twenty-first wet season. On the contrary, in a steep earth slope unprotected by artificial means, every monsoon brings it nearer to the inevitable landslide, and the more perfect appreciation of this fact by the authorities in our hill stations will help to guard against the constant, but fatal, tendency there always appears to be to repose confidence in a slope which has not by chance been the scene of an accident for a generation. The limits of stability having been established for slopes in different materials under various degrees of saturation, the rules so determined should not be superseded by the necessarily limited experience of any local authority.

The angles at which free landslips are possible on earth slopes capping the undisturbed massive rock are not conformed with in areas where the rocks have been crushed by earth movements. Marked settlement, for instance, on slopes with an average inclination of 32° has been noticed between the two branches of the Kág jhora, where the subsidence has resulted in the production of serious cracks behind and above Manor Lodge and through Blossom Grove, and again on the eastern side of the ridge, where the W. N.-W.—E. S.-E. fault which determined the position of the Kág jhora has cut through the hill. In each of these cases the crushed condition of the rock has permitted the free percolation of water, which, issuing as springs at lower levels, has been enabled, through the loose texture of the fractured rocks, to carry away large quantities of material in suspension, instead of acting in the usual and much slower fashion by chemical solution. In these cases, besides the occurrence of free slips at lower levels, where the foot of the slope has been undermined, the higher levels of the slopes have undergone serious subsidence with the production of numerous ramifying fissures through the surface. Such cases of local subsidence by removal of material from the deep portions of the soil are necessarily rare in Darjeeling. The rocks are very uniform in composition, and include no specially soluble formations whose removal would result in destructive local subsidence. Practically, therefore, the only landslips which we have to deal with in this affected area are free falls of earth from highly inclined slopes.

6. The immediate cause of the numerous and destructive landslips of September 25th can be satisfactorily traced to the excessive rainfall on that and the previous day. Up to the 24th the monsoon rainfall had been some 17 inches in excess of the average, and although there had been a partial cessation during the previous week, there was no break in the rains sufficient to permit of any appreciable drying of the soil before the unprecedented fall of the 24th and 25th. During the 24 hours ending at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 24th, 5.30 inches fell, followed by 19.40 inches before 4 A.M. of the following day. Of the latter amount 14.32 inches fell between 4 P.M. on the 24th and 4 A.M. on the 25th, making an average of over an inch an hour for a stretch of 12 hours.* The previous meteorological reports for Darjeeling show no parallel for this excessive precipitation, and falling as it did upon slopes already saturated by an unusually heavy monsoon, may be with little doubt regarded as the immediate cause of the great damage done in the district. The heavy rain was an accompaniment of a severe cyclone which was first noticed by the Meteorological Department on the 21st as developing to the south-east of False Point in the Bay of Bengal, and from there moved gradually northwards until, on the morning of the 24th, the centre of the depression was near Rampur Boalia, giving rise to a heavy rainfall all over the province.

Residents in the station have called attention to the unusual severity of the previous winter; but the minimum temperatures recorded at St. Paul's School on the Jellapahar ridge and by Father deCampigneulles at St. Joseph's College, North Point, show that the low temperatures were not sufficiently below freezing point or continuously maintained to seriously affect the soil-cap by frost, and so prepare the slopes for the reception and further destructive action of rain. The mean air temperature for the day never fell below 32° on the Jellapahar ridge, whilst the minima were generally less than 3 or 4 degrees below freezing point. With or without a fall of snow, these temperatures are sufficiently mild to preclude any chance of freezing beyond the merest superficial skin of soil.

7. All enquiries which have been made as to the occurrence of earthquakes on the night of the 24th-25th have led to negative results. Whilst local earth-tremors may have followed, and resulted from, the heavy landslips, there is no evidence to

* These figures are obtained from the Observatory at St. Paul's School; but Mr. A. E. Wild, Conservator of Forests, recorded 13 inches in the last 9 hours of the storm at Langdale, which is situated at a lower level on the west slope.

show that an earthquake was the actual cause. The negative results recorded by Mr. John Milne in the Seismological Laboratory at Shide on the Isle of Wight, and by the Meteorological Reporter in the Alipore Observatory, show that no earthquake of considerable magnitude could have occurred on the 24th or 25th; and as this is in agreement with the local evidence, the possibility of an earthquake being the cause of the numerous slips can be safely left out of further consideration.

Both the positive and the negative evidence thus point to the heavy rain on the night of the 24th and 25th as the cause of the damage done in Darjeeling; and as the most excessive fall occurred as the final stage of a severe cyclone, and at the end of the rainy season, when the ground was already saturated, it is sufficient also to account for the approximately simultaneous occurrence of the large number of landslips in and near the station.

It is just possible that the great earthquake of 1897 sufficiently weakened certain portions of the soil-cap to permit slips in places which otherwise might have successfully resisted the action of this storm. But the effects of the rain so completely overwhelmed the other contributory causes that the storm may be looked upon as practically the only cause of the disaster.

8. The destruction of property caused by the slips, the origin of which has been traced in the previous paragraphs, was serious.

Damage to buildings. The buildings which were entirely destroyed were Roadside Villa and No. 2 Mall Villas, situated in close proximity to one another on the eastern slope, also a dormitory in the Diocesan School, slightly further north on the same slope, and a small house at the entrance to the Convent occupied by Native Christians. A limited number of other buildings have been so severely shaken or damaged that there is no course open but to dismantle them. Amongst these are the Gymnasium of the Diocesan School, Baldoyle, and Nos. 1 and 2 Blossom Grove, while the sites of Bachelor's Cot, Point Clear No. 2, Nos. 4 and 5 Mall Villas, and Lebong View have been rendered insecure, and it is inadvisable to maintain the buildings on them.

The list of houses at which out-houses have been destroyed or seriously damaged is a long one, and points to the necessity of far greater care being exercised in the future in selecting sites for such buildings. Damaged out-buildings are found at Southfield, Ada Villa, Auckland House, Edelweiss, Nos. 1, 4, and 5 Mall Villas, Pekoe Tip, Baldoyle, Nirvana, Ida Villa, Prospect House, Rook's Nest, Nora Villas, the Parsonage, Newstead, Ashentully, Rockingham, Holly Wood, Eden Falls, Chevrement, and Woodville.

The following buildings or sites have been affected to a serious extent and will need very heavy expenditure to render them secure: Arcadia, Holly Lodge, Cluneavon, Terpsithea, Ridge Cottage, Vailima, Oakdene, Edelweiss, Ida Villa, and Manor Lodge.

In addition to these the undernoted sites or buildings have suffered in a less degree, but need somewhat extensive protective works to render them secure: Southfield, Ada Villa Barrack, Alma Cottage, No. 3 Mall Villas, Pekoe Tip, Baldoyle, Fox How, Prospect House, Rook's Nest, the Parsonage, No. 2 The Ridge, The Yews and The Laurels, Kilfane Lodge, Newstead, Woodlands, Mary Lodge, Glen Eden Nos. 1 and 2, Rothiemay and Ashentully.

Minor work in revetting and other protective measures is required to the following premises:—

Eden Bank, Blarney Castle, Roy Villa, Free Masons' Hall, Holly Wood, Rockingham, Myrtle Lodge, Emerald Bank, Rockville, La Roche, The Lounge, Augusta Villa, Nirvana, Stepside, Chapelton, Dilkusha, St. Patrick's and Drum Druid.

These lists include buildings in all parts of the town, excepting only the Bazar area, which occupies the flattest portion for the western slope.

The above list of places visited is a fairly exhaustive one and covers more than three weeks of careful inspection. There are a few outlying premises which have not been visited, as they did not appear of sufficient importance and as requests to visit them have not been received.

9. The main roads throughout the station have, without exception, been seriously injured. The heaviest damage has occurred on the Auckland Road, the Calcutta Road, the Jellapahar Road, the Birch Hill Road, the Runjit Road, and the Tonga Road.

Damage to roads.

The Hill Cart Road and Lebong Road have also suffered extensive damage. These are principally outside station limits, and their repair being dealt with by the Public Works Department, details need not be given here.

On all of the roads mentioned above bridges have been carried away and drains scoured out, while the road surface has either slipped away entirely, or is blocked by *albris* over long distances. The Calcutta Road particularly, traversing as it does the eastern and most unstable slope of the hill, has suffered to such an extent that its restoration to its former state appears at present to be impracticable (see Proceedings of the 17th Meeting).

Communication has already been to a large extent restored on the other roads named, and progress is being made on their repair. The completion of the necessary work will involve a large expenditure, and will take a considerable time.

10. There are six principal ravines serving the drainage of the town.

Damage to drains. These are, on the western slopes, the Kág *jhora*, the Jail *jhora*, the Hospital *jhora*, and the Cutcherry *jhora*; on the eastern slopes, the two *jhoras* on either side of the spur on which Oakdene and Edelweiss are situated.

There is at present little or no protective work in any of these streams, and in consequence of the high inclination of their beds, heavy scour with slips from the sides has occurred in all of them. The subsidiary lines of drainage follow generally the road alignments and have suffered damage corresponding to that already mentioned under the head of Roads above.

Reconstruction, protection, and in some cases realignment to drainage channels generally are matters needing very early attention. The manner in which such work should be carried out is fully dealt with in paragraph 13 of this Report and in Appendix No. 2.

11. Loss of life and property in native bustis has occurred on both the eastern and western slopes of the hill. The most

Damage to bustis. extensive damage was done at the site of the Toongsoong Busti on the east slope, and practically the whole of this locality is considered to be unsafe for future occupation. At Singamari on the west several huts were destroyed. The site is considered as one not altogether desirable. The huts built in re-entrant angles and those at the north end near the position of the recent slips are considered as unsafe.

Prodhan's Busti below the Cutcherry stands on slope of very steep inclination, and though little actual damage occurred at this spot, the site must be looked on as an insecure position for buildings of any class, including huts.

12. It has already been shown in previous paragraphs that the immediate cause of the damage inspected by the Committee can be traced to the remarkable storm of the 24th and 25th of September. There are, however, various contributory causes whose proper discrimination will serve to guard against a repetition of such accidents in future.

Among the most noticeable of these are—

(a) *Defective site drainage.*—The possibility of water entering the soil-cap through gardens and site platforms has been most imperfectly guarded against. Of examples in which defective removal of rain water has been an almost certain contributing cause of slips, Augusta Villa, Jessamine Villa, and Terpsithea may be cited.

(b) *Excessive lead of road drains.*—In many instances it has been noticed that the blocking of a drain by a small fall of earth from an overhanging saturated slope has led to further damage on the hillsides below. Ordinarily this cannot be foreseen, but in certain cases the damage done would have been largely mitigated if the drain in fault had served a smaller catchment area and had been provided with more frequent outlets into natural channels.

The most striking example of a drain which needs the treatment indicated above is the Jollapahar Road drain, the interruption of which by the slip at Terpsithea caused heavy slips right down to the Cart Road below.

(c) *Imperfect or badly constructed revetments.*—Although steep slopes have been frequently revetted, many instances have been observed in which the revetments are badly founded, of insufficient thickness, and of poor construction, and in consequence quite incapable of maintaining the slopes they have been

built to retain. Revetments of this nature were observed at Rook's Nest, Newstead, above Kalu Singh's house, and round the site of Baldoyle.

(d) *Neglect to reduce or protect steep slopes.*—There is a marked tendency to repose confidence in slopes of high inclination on account of general ignorance concerning the safe angle at which a saturated earth bank will stand. Failures due to such neglect have taken place at Nora Villas, Prospect House, the Club, &c.

(e) *Undercutting steep slopes for the formation of paths, roads and out-houses.*—The careless cutting of paths and out-house sites is a fruitful source of danger. Cases in which slips have been aggravated by such practices are numerous. The following are examples: The path from Vale Pleasant to Roadside Villa, the approach road to Fox How, the zigzag to Arcadia, and many others; and of out-houses, Southfield, the Club, Oakdene, &c.

13. To minimise the chances of future damage of a similar nature to that which has recently occurred, the Committee recommends that the following measures be taken:—

Remedial measures.

(a) *Drainage.*—As all slips are the immediate result of the action of water in the soil-cap, complete and efficient drainage should be the first among protective measures to be considered.

The existing system of sloping all roads inwards and providing a stone-lined gutter on the inner side should be maintained, but the lead of the drains so formed should be shortened as much as possible by taking advantage of every opportunity of training them into natural water channels by paved drains, the natural channels being properly prepared, as noted below, for the reception of such drains.

The catchment area of every section of every drain should be indicated on a map specially kept for the purpose, and the size of each drain should be regulated by the maximum discharge from the area arrived at.

(b) *Sites.*—All building sites should be sloped inwards towards the house, which should be surrounded by a drain of concrete or lime masonry of adequate size, graded to discharge into the nearest natural channel. The necessity for controlling channels common to two or more sites is referred to in Appendix No. 4.

Every house should be provided with a wide masonry platform to receive the discharge from its eaves, or with gutters and down-pipes discharging into the drains surrounding the premises.

Drains on house sites situated at the foot of steep earth slopes may advantageously be covered with moveable planks to intercept the small falls of earth which often result from the preliminary showers of a heavy downpour.

(c) *Treatment of ravines and springs.*—The main *jhoras* or natural drainage channels of ravines should be revetted at intervals by strong cross-walls arranged to reduce as far as possible the slope of the bed. These walls should be curved in plan and should have their crests slightly concave, so as to induce the stream to preserve a definite channel.

The flanks of such walls both up and down stream should be well guarded by properly constructed guide-walls built into the rock or firmest soil that may exist on either side. Where the height of such walls is great, water-cushions at the toe should in most cases be provided. All main *jhoras* should be provided with side walls and strongly paved flooring; they should be designed to carry the maximum volume of water that they are likely to receive in flood time (for type drawing see Appendix No. 6.)

Where springs occur it is advisable to open them out as far as possible towards their source and to put in a covered dry stone drain with a cemented floor. This drain should be trained into the nearest natural water channel.

(d) *Treatment of slopes.*—All slopes above and below house sites should be reduced to an inclination not exceeding 37° . Where the natural slope exceeds this angle, its foot should be raised by building a revetment wall. In slopes not exceeding or reduced to 37° , the vertical intervals between the toes of revetments should be limited to not more than 50 feet. The defective nature of many of the revetments built in previous years has been forcibly brought to the notice of the Committee during its inspection. More stringent regulations controlling the building of these important protective works are highly desirable. With this end in view, the detailed instructions contained in Appendix No. 3 have been drawn up.

Slopes should be turfed and planted. The planting of trees assist materially in increasing the stability of earth slopes on account of their net-work of roots and the way in which they absorb water from a saturated soil-cap. The cryptomeria appears to be specially suitable for this purpose. It grows quickly and has a binding root system. Other species which might be introduced as occasion offers are *buk*, *magnolia*, *kawla*, *kapashi*, *champ*, *pepli*, *katus*, *arkanla*, &c. New slips of loose soil should be sown broadcast with cryptomeria or utis or both (the seeds of these species are now ripening).

Jhoras might be planted between revetments on their banks with willow or totui cuttings spaced one or two feet apart. Grass slopes might with advantage be studded with rhododendron or other flowering shrubs. The sites of recent slips should be revetted to reduce slopes where necessary, dressed to a regular slope, and where possible turfed and planted.

14. Closely allied to remedial measures are prohibitions of practices which are injurious, or proved sources of danger.

Prohibitions.

(a) Prominent among these is unauthorized quarrying. Quarries, unless specially licensed, should be absolutely prohibited within the town area. Under no circumstances should stones be removed from *jhora* beds except where it is the intention to immediately replace such stones by protective work, or in cases where they are a menace to any structure below. The sanction of duly constituted authority should be preliminary to any such removal. Similarly, where stones are occupying dangerous positions on hill slopes, the approval of the authorities to their removal should be obtained.

(b) The dangerous practice of cutting paths, and especially zigzags, should be strictly regulated.

(c) On sites situated above slopes exceeding an angle of 37° from the horizontal, gardens and terraces for cultivation should not be permitted on that part of the site in front, that is outside the 37° line, while they might be allowed on such portions of the site lying behind, that is below this line (see Appendix No. 2).

(d) The construction of all works, drains, revetments or buildings of any description should not be allowed by private individuals without the permission of the Civil Officer in writing, and such works should be carried out under the supervision of the Government Engineer.

15. It has been recognised by this Committee that the Municipality under present conditions lacks the authority, the establishment, and the funds to carry out the measures needful to secure the safety of the station.

Agency for carrying out the suggestions of the Committee.

Reference to the Proceedings of the Special Sub-Committee (Appendix No. 4) will show the inadequacy of the existing municipal law and bye-laws under the Bengal Municipal Act of 1884. Further legislation is considered necessary, and the above-quoted proceedings indicate the lines on which it is proposed that a new Act be framed to meet the special circumstances at Darjeeling.

It is further proposed that Government be moved to take over at once the entire charge of all public roads, bridges, drains, and water-courses at present vested in or under the control of the Municipality, and to provide the funds necessary to repair public damages and construct such public protective works as may be required for the safety of the hill.

The new Act cannot probably come into force for several months. It will therefore, for the present at any rate, be impossible to apply its provisions to private buildings and premises. To enable the Municipality to carry out protective works at once in connection with private premises as efficiently and promptly as is possible with its present powers, it is recommended that the Engineer who may be appointed by Government to take over Public Works, should be appointed *ex-officio* as a member the Municipal Committee to advise in all technical matters regarding the safety of the hill, and to keep them in touch with public works under construction. The Deputy Conservator of Forests might also be similarly appointed as an advising member of the Committee.

16. When the Act comes into force, it is recommended that Government should assume to itself power and control over all the matters referred to

in Appendix No. 4 (Sub-Committee's Report). the controlling authority being the Local Government represented by a Board composed of the Deputy Commissioner, Darjeeling, and such Engineer or Engineers who may be appointed by Government in this behalf, with the provision in regard to matters of work on private premises of appeals as indicated in the report above quoted.

In the case of public works the decision of the Board would be subject to the final decision of the Superintending Engineer, the Government Engineer carrying out his duties in subordination to the Superintending Engineer under the usual Public Works Department Regulations.

The Committee recommends that the Deputy Commissioner in his capacity of Chairman to the Municipality should keep the Municipal Commissioners informed of all work carried out under the new Act.

17. On account of the short period that is available as a working season in the hills, the attention of Government is invited to the urgent necessity of making arrangements for the transfer of the control of the works specified above to the hands of Government.

Short working season.

18. The cost of repairing the damage recently done to public property and of carrying out the protective works recommended will probably amount to about 1½ lakhs of rupees. Such a sum is altogether beyond the resources of the Municipality.

Probable cost of repairing damage.

The large amount of property needing protection, the interest of Government in the maintenance of Darjeeling, and the urgent necessity of restoring public confidence in the station, point to the expenditure of such a large sum as that mentioned above as a probably economical investment.

19. Amongst arrangements of an unusual character, attention is drawn to the desirability of organising a system of patrol during the rainy season for the purpose of detecting any damage and of clearing drains temporarily blocked by small falls of earth or other *débris*. Unless such matters are attended to at once, diverted water is liable to cause large and serious slips, as has been noticed in many recent cases.

Special measures.

In addition to such measures a special inspection of the station should be made as soon as convenient after the close of each monsoon, and a report on the works done, as well as on any damage that may have occurred during the year, should be made for the information of Government.

20. The Committee has considered the question of possible building sites for the future extension of the town. In paragraph 4 of this report a comparison has been made between the eastern and western slopes of the ridge on which Darjeeling is situated. The Committee is fully satisfied that on account of the steep inclination of the eastern slopes they are generally unsuitable for building sites. Certain of the sites already established on these slopes can be maintained at considerable expenditure on protective works, as mentioned in the detailed proceedings. It is inadvisable to allow any more to be excavated. The gentler slopes on the western face of the hill have already accommodated the greater part of the town, and sites still remaining available are few. A suggestion has been made that additional area might be obtained by cutting down the summit of Observatory Hill to the level of the Ada Villa flat. To this proposal the majority of the Committee is strongly opposed, both on account of the associations that are connected with this hill, and of the limited area, 5½ acres, that would be obtained if the suggestion were carried out. Though we are not prepared to admit that the necessity of finding new building sites is an urgent one, we are strongly of opinion that sites for quarrying are an immediate necessity. We have indicated one at St. Paul's School, and others may be found at Birch Hill Park or its vicinity.

Extension of the town.

21. In thus reviewing the damage done to the station and the precautions which should be taken to prevent a recurrence of similar disaster, the Committee desires to record its opinion that considering the large extent of the buildings, roads and drains, the slips, though numerous, by no means affect the general character of the station as a desirable resort. If the measures suggested by the Committee are carried out, and reasonable precautions are continued in the future, the safety of the station will be assured.

22. The following is a list of the appendices to the Report :—

- Appendix No. 1.—Detailed Proceedings of the Committee's Meetings.
 „ „ 2.—Report of a Sub-Committee on protective works necessary for the safety of the hill.
 „ „ 3.—Note on sections and specifications to be followed in building revetments.
 „ „ 4.—Report of a Sub-Committee appointed to consider the advisability of moving Government to assume powers and control over the necessary work independently of the Municipality.
 „ „ 5.—Register of rainfall recorded by Mr. A. E. Wild, Conservator of Forests, Bengal.
 „ „ 6.—Drawings and designs.
 „ „ 7.—Map of Darjeeling coloured to show all slopes standing at an angle exceeding 37° .

APPENDIX No. 2.

REPORT OF A SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONSIDER DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING WORK NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE HILLSIDES.

Mr. H. Clöete	} <i>Members.</i>
„ T. H. Holland	...	...
„ E. R. Gardiner	...	...

I.—QUARRYING AND REMOVING OF STONES FROM JHORAS AND HILLSIDES.

It has been from time to time pointed out that quarrying by unauthorised persons is a fruitful source of heavy damage on the hillsides. Correspondence which took place between the Public Works Department and the Municipality in 1895-96 exists in the Executive Engineer's Office, but the practice still continues. We are of opinion that quarrying on hillsides should be absolutely prohibited, except in specially licensed quarries; and under no circumstances whatever should a stone be removed from a *jhora* bed, except where it is the intention to immediately replace it by artificial protective works, or to clear the mouth of a culvert or drain. The removal of stone from hillsides, *jhoras*, or slips should only be allowed with the approval of due authority.

With regard to the former case, the necessity for restrictive measures appears to be obvious; in the latter the need of such measures appears to be less clearly understood. The deepening of a stream channel by its own water is attended by an increase of the slopes of the sides, and every stone which exists in the *jhora* is a natural means of retarding this action. Its removal, therefore, by artificial means assists in the process of destructive erosion. The existing stones not only prevent the deepening of the bed, but act naturally in the same way as artificial weirs in reducing the velocity and destructive action of the stream. Removal of stones must consequently necessitate a resort to artificial means for preventing the *jhora* from further deepening its channel and undermining the adjacent hillsides. It does not seem to be fully appreciated that the removal of stones from *jhoras* brings about destructive action in a double sense:—First, it is in itself an act of erosion, and secondly, by permitting an increased velocity in the stream, increases its denuding and transporting power. Any rules framed in this respect should be rigidly enforced as regards both large boulders and small stones. The neglect of these principles in the past has undoubtedly led to a large amount of the damage which has recently been inspected by the Committee.

Another point in direct connection with this matter is the practice of making pockets in the hillside at the upper end of a culvert. Where these pockets are required, we would draw attention to the necessity of protecting their sides by walling. Unless this is done, every time the pockets are cleared out there is a tendency to induce further slips into them.

These restrictions will naturally lead to increased difficulties in obtaining building stone, and the selection of suitable sites for quarries should therefore be a matter for careful and early enquiry by the authorities. We suggest as one such site the summit of the ridge above the source of the *Kág jhora*, immediately to the south of St. Paul's School and over the playground. The removal of stone from this locality would also be attended with beneficial results in assisting the treatment of the *Kág jhora*.

II.—TREATMENT OF JHORAS.

In general all *jhoras* should be revetted at intervals by strong cross walls, so arranged as to reduce, as far as possible, the slopes of existing beds. These walls should be curved in plan, with their crests slightly concave to induce the discharge to keep a definite channel. The flanks of such walls, both up and down stream, should be well guarded by properly

constructed guide walls built into the rock or firm soil on either side. These weir walls should have a considerable batter on the face, with courses laid at right-angles to the batter. In an important wall it may be desirable to introduce bands of masonry laid in cement-mortar for the purpose of strengthening the structure. Where the height of such walls is considerable a water-cushion should in most cases be constructed.

All *ghoras* should be lined with side walls and strongly paved flooring, the channels being designed large enough to carry the maximum volume of water that has been known to flow down them up to date. There are many *ghoras*, however, which it would be expensive to treat in this fashion; from these the stones already existing in their beds should not be disturbed or removed without due authority.

All subsidiary *ghoras* or drains in the neighbourhood should be trained into the main channel by the shortest advisable route in paved drains, timber shoots or natural channels, as may be necessary in each particular instance.

We append type drawings as examples of protective works, but they may of course be modified in special cases (see Appendix No. 6).

III.—TREATMENT OF EXISTING ROADSIDE DRAINS AND OUTLETS.

The existing system of treating road drainage in and around the town is to slope the road inwards towards a definite channel constructed on the inner side. Considering the nature of the formation and the circumstance that the *ghoras* are near or on the massive rock, and taking into account the fact that the system is now well established, there appears to be no sufficient reason for altering the existing method of draining the roads. As many of the drains in Darjeeling carry sullage water, the system of restricting the water to well defined channels should not be exchanged for its irregular distribution on to the hillsides.

The Committee has noticed that there is a tendency to unduly increase the lead of drains and an imperfect attempt to utilise every possible natural channel of discharge. This practice increases the risk of breaches and spills in the drain, as well as of scour in the *ghora* into which the discharge ultimately takes place. They recommend that in future full use should be made of every natural line of drainage, and that all road drains should be turned into them as frequently as possible, their beds being protected where necessary by paving.

Where there is a probability of a drain being blocked by slips from above it is advisable that a moveable plank covering be laid over the drain to keep the channel clear when such slips occur.

Attention is drawn to the inadvisability of building houses across natural drainage lines, many instances of neglect in the observance of this important rule having been recently noticed. In such cases there is not only danger to the site built upon, but to other adjacent sites, unless special means are adopted to compensate for such interference with natural drainage lines.

The Sub-Committee notices that at present there is no means of ascertaining from existing maps the catchment area of any drain or *ghora*; and it recommends that the catchment area of every outfall should be clearly indicated on a large-scale map specially kept for the purpose.

IV.—DRAINAGE OF HOUSE SITES.

The necessity of following an efficient system of draining house sites appears to have been seldom observed in Darjeeling, and the Sub-Committee recommends that the following rules be followed:—

On sites situated above slopes exceeding an angle of 37° from the horizontal, gardens and terraces for cultivation should be absolutely prohibited on that part of the platform in front (that is, outside) the 37° line, whilst they might be permitted on that position of the site lying behind (that is, below) this line. For instance in the diagram* attached, gardens and terraces would be prohibited on a site stretching from A to B, whilst on a site stretching from A to D, gardens might be permitted only between C and D.

* Deposited.

All building sites should be sloped inwards towards the house, which should be surrounded by a concrete or lime masonry drain of adequate size, graded to discharge through well-constructed stone drains into the nearest natural channel, in which provision should be made for their reception.

Every house should be provided either with a wide masonry platform around its base to receive the discharge from its eaves, or with gutters and down-pipes of sufficient size discharging into the drains surrounding the premises. Every gutter should be not less than 6 inches, semi-circular or square section, and be laid to a slope of about 1 inch to 10 feet. These should be supplied with down-pipes of at least 3 inches in diameter, placed at intervals not exceeding 30 feet.

As in the case of roads, drains on house sites situated at the foot of steep earth slopes might with advantage be covered with moveable planks to intercept the small earth falls often resulting from the preliminary showers of a heavy downpour.

Special precautions should be taken for the treatment of springs. Where these occur it is advisable to open them out as far as possible towards the origin of the spring, and to put in a covered dry-stone drain, cement-paved and trained into the nearest natural channel.

V.—SITE OF THE DIOCESAN SCHOOL.

The Sub-Committee, according to directions, have made a detailed examination of this site for the purpose of considering the possibility of its partial or complete utilisation on completion of ordinary protective works. The actual damage done to the buildings on this site during the recent storm has been detailed in the Committee's Proceedings (Appendix No. 1, Meeting No. 3).

(a) Commencing at the south-east end of the site, the old building, Vale Pleasant, must be condemned entirely as a site for safe residence. The reasons for this conclusion are—(1) the exceedingly steep and high slope at the back, which, though containing much rock, is a constant danger, and cannot be cut back without interference with the roads above; (2) the steeper and higher slope in front, which is now revetted from the Birch Hill Road below. Marked settlement has occurred on this face of the building. The site as it now exists is cramped in the extreme, and if a sufficient retaining wall, with the necessary clearance between it and the house, were provided at the back, the space left for building, already small, would be reduced by some 10 to 12 feet. This, apart from the fact that the front edge of the site is in danger, would render the useless for any building of importance. We consider that for residential purposes, the site is and must remain dangerous, and should only be used for cook houses or godowns which are not occupied by night.

(b) The building containing the studio and chapel is altogether too close to the hillside to be considered safe. It is evidently liable to be wrecked in the same manner as the building which stood next to it and was recently destroyed by the recent landslip. This, with the two buildings to the north-west of it, may be considered together. They were all in contact with the hillside at the back, from which the slope rises at an angle of 41° , an inclination which is considered unsafe. The width of the terrace available for building purposes is some 48 feet. It is possible to reduce the slope behind by three revetments placed respectively at the toe, under the Mall, and at an intermediate position on the slope. Deducting from the width of the site the base width of the toe wall, clearance between this and the buildings, with passage way in front, only about 25 feet would remain for the width of any new buildings to be erected. The size of such new buildings on this end of the site would, therefore, be considerably less than half that of the former ones, whilst the expenditure in protecting the site would be excessive.

(c) The central block stands somewhat further from the hillside, but the slope at the back is equally dangerous, being at an angle of 41° up to the Mall road. The width of the building is 47 feet. If the slope behind is reduced to the safe angle of 37° by walling, as suggested above, the width available for building will be limited to 32 feet only. The present building would therefore have to be dismantled and rebuilt to considerably smaller dimensions.

(d) The site of the building to the north end is still more dangerous than the rest. The slopes at the back rise to an angle of 47° whilst the house has been built over a distinct drainage line, slips on which have destroyed the north end of the building. Protective works would be still heavier, and on account of its situation, the site is altogether unsuitable for building purposes.

(e) From the above consideration, namely, the entire condemnation of the portions of the site at both ends, and the reduction in width of the safe area for buildings in the centre, we are of opinion that the site is unsuitable for the purposes for which it has been utilised in the past.

VI.—TREATMENT OF THE KAG JHORA AND HOSPITAL JHORA.

The rocks visible in the Kág jhora are all highly crushed, the stream having eroded its channel along an apparent fault-line. For this reason the nature of any foundation to be obtained is likely to vary with every few feet. It is, therefore, practically impossible to frame any detailed scheme at present, and any such scheme must be developed *pari passu* with the progress of protective works. The general lines on which this jhora should be protected have been indicated in an earlier section of this note (section II).

Before the recent landslips three bridges existed over the Kág jhora, all of which are on important lines of communication which must be maintained. It has been proposed* that large-span bridges might be thrown across the jhora to accommodate each of these roads. The principal of these is the Hill Cart road carrying the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway, and its re-construction being in the hands of the Public Works Department, is now under official consideration. It may be noted that the bridge at this site was not destroyed by scour but by two slips from the sides of the hills over the abutments, and the risk of such slips would in no way be minimised by adopting a large span bridge.

Further, to render the construction of such a bridge feasible, there should be solid rock foundations on the sides of the jhora. These do not appear to exist, and for the reasons stated above, it is unlikely that such suitable foundations will be found. Another objection to the construction of a large-span bridge across the jhora at the site forming a chord to the alignment of the railway, is the difficulty of modifying the existing curves to form suitable approaches at either end of the straight bridge.

* See note appended to the Proceedings of the 10th Meeting in Appendix No. 1.

It has been found that a bridge of about 10 feet span is sufficient to carry the maximum discharge of the *jhora*, and for such a structure suitable rock foundations exist. The more uniform distribution of pressures, which is possible in the case of a small bridge and its approach walls, partially meet, instead of accentuating, the dangers of an irregular and uncertain rock foundation.

Whatever span of bridge is adopted at this point, there will always be a tendency from the nature of the site to slips on either side and consequent loss of the bridge. Such loss would be far more serious in the case of a long-span bridge than in that of a short one.

For the reasons above stated, we are of opinion that there is nothing to recommend the larger spans suggested. As regards the Tonga road above, the bridge is considerably damaged, but there is no reason why it should not be re-constructed on lines similar to those of the old bridge.

For the Upper and Lower Auckland road causeways with dry stone walls to maintain the road should be provided. On account of the specially broken nature of the rock in this *jhora* the restrictions that we have advocated in paragraph 1 above against the removal of loose stone are of special importance. A quarry from which stone might be procured for work in the *jhora* has been suggested at St. Paul's.

With reference to the Hospital *jhora* the general principles already indicated must be followed in any works that are carried out. We note that the treatment of this *jhora* was considered by a Special Committee convened in 1888, whose report is dated 9th February 1891, and it was then recommended that works similar to those that we have proposed should be commenced at the junction of several minor *jhora*s below Lochnagar at a point marked B on the map accompanying that report.

VII.—PROPOSAL TO CUT DOWN AND SLOPE OBSERVATORY HILL.

The initial reason given for this proposal was the safeguarding of certain houses, particularly the Diocesan School, Stepside, and the Mall Villa group. As the sites of these buildings are considered on other grounds to be unsuitable for dwelling-houses, the principal object of the proposal no longer exists. A subsidiary reason is the use of the hill as a source of building stone. Against this there are strong sentimental objections from both European and Native points of view. The hill is one of the most prominent and well-known features of Darjeeling, and has been a place of native worship since Darjeeling has been known. The removal of the hill-top would not in our opinion be compensated for by the small value of the building stone to be procured. The cost is not a matter that need enter into the consideration of the question. If the top is removed to 70 feet below the summit, the net cost after disposal of the stone will probably not exceed Rs. 6,000; reducing it by an additional 50 feet would increase the cost to about Rs. 20,000; by cutting to the first-named level a plateau of $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres would be obtained, and 50 feet lower 3 acres would be added.

If new quarries must be found, we advise that they should be located in Birch Hill Park, the ridge of which offers opportunities for levelling sites for building by the removal of stone, and being the only unoccupied spur, appears to be the natural direction for the inevitable expansion of the station.

VII.—Though outside the scope of this reference, the Sub-Committee examined in detail the sites of Edelweiss and the house below.

EDELWEISS.

Immediately below the house the terrace is supported by a fairly good revetment. Below this wall is an unrevetted approach road which has slipped, and below this again is the Birch Hill road, which is revetted, though the revetment has been to some extent broken by the slip above.

The slopes on this face are 40° . It is necessary to put in a revetment intermediate between the two mentioned, and to carry this all round from the *jhora* to the Diocesan School site.

The slope from the Birch Hill road down to the stream below the building is about 40° on to a point 150 feet below. The expense of treating this slope would clearly be very high. Without such treatment the face of the spur is bound to suffer from slips year by year, and the house cannot be called a secure one in the rains.

BLARNEY CASTLE.

The overhanging slope behind should be thoroughly cleared, and the earthcap taken off to determine the nature of the soil. If after this examination revetting is found necessary a wall must be put in.

LEBONG VIEW.

The slope from the front of the house into the *jhora* below is distinctly dangerous. Protective work in this *jhora* would be very costly, and it is improbable that such work will be carried out. The site of the building is in our opinion an insecure one.

APPENDIX No. 3.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON THE 20TH OCTOBER 1899 TO CONSIDER TYPE SECTIONS OF REVETMENTS, AND COMPRISING THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, viz.:—

Mr. S. B. Cary,
 „ S. H. Clöete,
 „ T. H. Holland, and
 „ H. Lee,

Met on the 21st idem to consider the nature and form which ordinary revetment and retaining walls should take as protective works at sites which have been recommended by the Committee as being suitable for building purposes.

The Sub-Committee in this connection has taken into consideration the simpler cases of revetment and retaining walls being constructed for retaining ordinary earth at its natural slope; and it had not regarded the exceptional cases in which walls are surcharged by the weight of artificial structures, which latter instances must necessarily be specially dealt with.

The Sub-Committee assumes that the object of its being deputed to deal with this matter is to fix upon general type sections of walls to guide the Municipality in sanctioning immediate and urgent restoration works and so enabling house-owners to put such work in hand—in anticipation of Government taking action on the final recommendation of the Committee.

The Sub-Committee advises the following general specifications for ordinary revetment and retaining walls, which is to be adhered to:—

Foundations.—To be taken out to required sections and to go down into the original firm sub-soil or on to the bed-rock, and the bed line should be at right-angles to the face batter.

Rubble stone-work.—All stones, both in the length and width, should be arranged to break joint as much as possible in these walls. One through stone or a line of bonding stones should be inserted within 5 feet intervals in each course. They should be so arranged as not to fall perpendicularly over those in the course below. These bonding stones, if they do not go right through the wall, should overlap each other at least one-third of the length. No stone should be of greater height than its breadth or length, and they should be laid on their natural beds.

All dry rubble revetment and retaining walls, except where otherwise specified, should be built with a face batter of 1 in 4 with perpendicular backs and with the courses carefully laid at right-angles to the face batter.

All revetment and retaining walls should be built up solid to the required sections, with stones as specified, and recourse to the use of unnecessary spawls and chips for filling in the back of the wall should be carefully guarded against.

Weeping Holes should be provided for at four feet horizontal and four feet vertical intervals in all walls commencing with the first course above ground.

The Sub-Committee recommends the following general practical rule for calculating the thickness of ordinary dry stone retaining walls:—

The width at top to be one-fifth of the vertical height. The face to be battered out at 1 in 4. For instance, in a wall 15 feet high, the top width would be $\frac{15}{5} = 3$ feet, and the total horizontal breadth at bottom will be $3 + \frac{15}{4} = 6$ feet 9 inches. See sketch A in margin.*

* Deposited.

In cases of simple surcharged walls, the height to be taken in calculating the widths is to be assumed as being one-and-a-half times the vertical height. Thus, in the wall above named, if it be surcharged, the height should be taken as being $15 + 7\frac{1}{2} = 22\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and its dimensions should be $\frac{22\frac{1}{2}}{5} = 4\frac{1}{2}$ feet (say) at top and $4\frac{1}{2} + 4\frac{1}{2} = 9$ feet 3 inches at bottom as per sketch B in the margin.*

* Deposited.

In the case of simple surcharged walls, the angle of slope of soil above should not exceed 37° for a vertical distance of not over 30 feet above the top of the wall, but the conditions for building under slopes having a greater vertical height than 50 feet above site will be considered when further necessary data have been gathered.

APPENDIX 4.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 18TH, 20TH AND 21ST OCTOBER 1899, APPOINTED TO CONSIDER THE ADVISABILITY OF MOVING GOVERNMENT TO ASSUME TO ITSELF POWER AND CONTROL IN CERTAIN MATTERS AFFECTING THE SAFETY OF THE STATION OF DARJEELING.

PRESENT:

Mr. Gardiner.
Mr. Upton.
Mr. Earle.

1. Mr. Earle was elected Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

2. The Sub-Committee proceeded to discuss the order in which they should take up the subjects on which they were required to report. It was decided that they should first of all deal with the question as to whether the existing Municipal law and bye-laws afforded sufficient power to the Municipal Commissioners to enable them to deal adequately with the present state of things in Darjeeling, then consider whether the Municipality had the necessary staff and means to carry out all the work that it was considered advisable should be undertaken, and finally, make their recommendations as to the authority that should be empowered to carry out their proposals.

3. *Buildings: (a) Houses not being huts.*—(1) Ample powers are required as regards sites of buildings. Such powers are required not only in respect of sites for future buildings, but of sites of houses already in existence, and of sites of houses destroyed or abandoned. Power is required to absolutely prohibit building on a proposed site, and to absolutely prohibit the re-erection, re-building, any alteration or repair of, or addition to a building on a site already used without compensation being claimable by owners. Sections 237 to 242 of the Municipal Act do not give these powers. For instance, sections 237, clause 2, provides for compensation being given in consequence of a prohibition to re-erect. Section 240 of the Municipal Act does not apply to section 237, and yet rule 1 of the Building Rules sanctioned by the Lieutenant-Governor under Notification No. 5083M., dated the 30th November 1897, purports to give the Municipal Commissioners powers to give or withhold permission in regard to the alteration of or addition to a building. This seems *ultra vires*. Rule No. 2 of the said Rules purports to cover the questions of sites, but section 241(1) of the Municipal Act, under which they were published, clearly does not authorise any such rule, and the rule itself is, therefore, apparently *ultra vires*. A bye-law issued under section 350A might possibly cover the case of *new sites which involved excavation*, but would not cover the case of *old sites nor that of a site not involving excavation*.

(2) Gutters and down-pipes are, in the case of houses in the hills, of the first importance as affecting the stability of the adjoining slopes, and yet the Municipal Act contains no provision as regards these, and obviously, therefore, no rules could be framed to meet this want. The expression "drains" in section 241 (b) of the Act could scarcely be held to cover house-gutters and down-pipes.

(3) It is eminently necessary to have power to regulate the entire system of drainage around private houses, to compel owners to comply with directions given, or, if necessary, to execute the work and to apportion the cost between the owners, including Government, affected. It is further necessary to have similar powers in regard to the maintenance and improvement of such works. For instance, the drains round a given existing house may be perfectly efficient, but discharge in the wrong direction or into the wrong *ghora*. Section 224 of the Municipal Act does not confer these powers, while section 241(1) only refers to drains in houses to be erected or re-erected, and not to existing houses. The Landslips Committee have already noticed slips at Terpsithea and Woodbine Villa, where there were efficient drains, but where the said drains discharged, in their opinion, in the wrong direction. The want of these necessary powers have led to, and may again lead to, the most serious damage to hillsides and properties thereon.

(4) Section 242 gives power to the Municipal Commissioners to prohibit an owner from letting an unstable house for occupation, but does not give power to prohibit the owner himself or any other person or persons permitted by him to reside in the house from occupying his house, if unstable. This section, moreover, only refers to an unstable house, but does not cover the case of a house which is perfectly stable, but is not at all safe owing to the likelihood of landslips from above or below on account of the nature or condition of the hillside. This is very important and makes it impossible at present to prevent owners from occupying or letting for occupation the most dangerous houses in the station.

(b) *Servants' houses included in the term "houses" as per section 6 of the Municipal Act.*—It has been particularly noticeable in the present landslips that servants' houses are poorly built and unsatisfactorily placed, and this notwithstanding that the term "house," as defined in the Municipal Act, would appear to cover such houses. The consequence has been that there has been considerable loss of life amongst servants. All the remarks made in paragraph (a) above apply in the case of such houses.

(c) *Huts.*—However dangerous to the safety of a hillside a group of huts may be, the Municipal Act confers no power whereby such huts may be removed entirely, or be caused

to be efficiently protected or drained. Section 243 only gives power as regards the erection of *nio* huts.

4. *Drains and natural water channels.*—(a) We are here discussing the drainage of land as distinguished from that of houses referred to under paragraph 3 (a) (3) above. In order to secure the safety of the hillsides, it is absolutely necessary that banks which require to be drained should be thoroughly and efficiently drained in accordance with a prescribed system of drainage either by artificial drains, or the improvement of the natural water-channels. It seems doubtful if section 37B of the Municipal Act and the ensuing sections would cover a system of surface drainage, but, assuming that this were the case, it would scarcely be possible to devise a general scheme so as to be certain of bringing one of the public drains within 100 feet of all land requiring drainage, a condition required before the provisions of sections 227 and 228 could be enforced. It may be mentioned that the Committee have recently noticed a case in which a single inefficient private drain, viz., the drain between Woodbine Villa and Jessamine Villa, has caused the collapse of a whole hillside.

(b) In the case of such schemes of drainage it would be necessary to have power to compel owners to comply with directions given, or, if necessary, to execute the work and to apportion the expense between the parties, including Government, affected. It would further be necessary to have similar powers in respect of the maintenance and improvement of such works.

(c) In the case of road drainage where it is considered necessary to divert the same through private property, the entire work should be carried out at the expense of Government, the land required for the purpose being acquired under the Land Acquisition Act.

5. *Roads.*—(a) Power should be given authorising the closure of an existing private road, if considered a danger to the hillside, unless such private road constitutes the only approach to a house and no alternative road can be made. No such power exists under the Act. Under section 350A a bye-law could be passed prohibiting only the making of a road where the occurrence of a landslip was considered possible or probable in the event of such a road being constructed. The Committee noticed that a road, which had existed for several years above two Mall Villas, was a contributory cause of the most disastrous landslips in Darjeeling.

(b) It has come to the notice of the Committee that difficulties occur when slips fall from private land on to public roads. It is the duty of the public authorities to clear the debris and repair the roads. As a rule the public authorities go to the expense, often heavy, of taking away the earth and mud, while the owner of the property removes the stone and timber. The stone and timber are of some value, but since it is the duty of the public authorities to clear the roads, we do not think that they should claim the stone and timber, but think that the owner might be allowed to keep the same if he removes them. Since, however, it is important that the road should be cleared quickly, it should be expressly declared that the controlling authority should clear the slip at once, separating the stone and timber from the soil, and that, unless the owner remove the said stone and timber so separated within 72 hours after the clearance of the slip, the public authorities could take the same, and the owner would lose any right to question their title thereto. It should, further, be made clear that private parties should be allowed to remove the stone and timber while the controlling authority was clearing the slip. If, however, in the process of clearing the same, the breaking up or blasting of stone or the cutting up of timber were found necessary, the said work should be executed by the controlling authority at the expense of the parties claiming the same.*

6. *Bridges.*—Power is required to enable the authorities to control the construction of bridges or culverts on private roads, to order the construction of bridges and culverts on such roads, and to direct the alteration or re-construction of existing bridges and culverts on such roads at the expense of the owners of the land on which they exist or are to be constructed or re-constructed or altered. It is also necessary to have power to, if necessary, execute such work, and to apportion the expense between the parties, including Government, affected thereby. It is further necessary to have similar powers in respect of the maintenance and improvement of such works.

7. *Revetting.*—(a) It is absolutely necessary to have power to compel private owners to revet their banks and private roads thereon without reference to the fact of there being buildings on the said banks or of there being any intention to build, provided that their omission to do so would endanger the safety of the hillside. It is also necessary to have power to, if necessary, execute such work, and to apportion the expense between the parties, including Government, affected thereby. It is further necessary to have similar powers in respect of the maintenance and improvement of such works. No such power is conferred by the Municipal Act, nor could any bye-law to this effect be framed under section 350A. The want of a single revetment on a bank may endanger the safety of the whole hillside.

(b) It is necessary to be able to compel owners to revet the banks behind and in front of both new and existing buildings (i.e., houses, servants' houses and huts). It is also necessary to have power to, if necessary, execute such work, and to apportion the expense between the parties, including Government, affected thereby. It is further necessary to have similar powers in respect of the maintenance and improvement of such works. The last part of bye-law No. 2 issued with Municipal Department No. 1704M.—D, dated the 23rd March 1898, would seem entirely *ultra vires*.

* Rules framed under this recommendation should contain the following condition: "Provided that no provision herein contained shall affect any existing arrangements connected with the Hill Cart road."

(c) It is doubtful whether the first part of the aforesaid bye-law in regard to retaining-walls in the case of *new* buildings would fall within the meaning of regulating the making of excavations or the removal of the soil.

(d) In the case of revetments required to protect public roads from slips from above or below, it is necessary to have power to make the same within private property and to apportion the cost between the parties, including Government, who may be affected thereby. It is further necessary to have similar power in respect of the maintenance and improvement of such works.

(e) It is considered desirable to record a note to the effect that rules should be drawn up specifying that revetments must always be to sections approved by the controlling authority.

8. *The removal of stone from hillsides, ghoras, and slips.*—Power is required to prohibit the removal of stone from hillsides, ghoras, and slips, save with due authority. The Committee has expressed a very strong opinion that numerous slips have been caused by the removal of stone in the manner indicated. Section 350A of the Municipal Act does not confer this power, the term “quarrying” implying the cutting of stone and not the mere removal of loose stone.

9. *Quarrying outside Municipal limits and the regulation of natural water-channels outside such limits.*—(a) Quarrying within Municipal limits is subject to regulation under section 350A of the Act, but it may be necessary to prohibit quarrying outside municipal limits in areas adjacent thereto. Hence it is desirable that the Act to be passed should contain an elastic section giving power to extend the whole Act or any provision thereof to any area contiguous to municipal limits.

(b) Such an extension of the Act might, for obvious reasons, also be very desirable in the case of the regulation of water-channels.

10. (a) *Turfing*; (b) *Planting and cutting of trees and shrubs*; and (c) *Terraces or circular holes for the reception of plants.*—(a) Power is required in order to compel private owners to turf their banks at a slope to be prescribed where this is considered necessary for the safety of the hill. For instance, it might not be considered necessary, in a given case, to compel an owner to go to the expense of revetting his land, but it might be considered sufficient to direct him to turf the same, or it might be considered sufficient to direct him to turf it at a given slope with a small toe-wall only. Turfing banks at a suitable slope with or without a small toe-wall, according to circumstances, has been found efficacious. It is also necessary to have power to, if necessary, execute such work, and to apportion the expense between the parties, including Government, affected thereby. It is further necessary to have similar powers in respect of the maintenance and improvement of such works.

(b) Though section 350A of the Municipal Act partially covers the regulation of the cutting or destroying of trees or shrubs, it does not confer any power as regards planting of the same. It is desirable to have power not only to prohibit the planting of certain kinds of trees, but to compel the planting of specified kinds of trees. It is also necessary to have power to, if necessary, execute such works, and to apportion the expense between the parties, including Government, affected thereby. It is further necessary to have similar powers in respect of the maintenance and improvement of such works. It has been noticed that certain trees with shallow roots appear to be a source of danger, which contain other (cryptomerias and willows in particular) appear to have a protective influence.

(c) Section 350A could hardly be held to cover the prohibition of making terraces or circular holes for the reception of plants such as are common in the town of Darjeeling, but certainly would not authorise the abolition of existing works of the nature where such abolition was considered necessary. The Committee consider that, in some places, such works have contributed to landslips. Bye-law No. 1 (i) published with Municipal Department No. 1704M., dated the 23rd March 1898, would, if this suggestion be adopted, require modification.

(d) Power is, moreover, needed to regulate, and, if considered necessary, prohibit gardening whether on the flat or on the slope.

11. *Straying of cattle on banks.*—Cattle are frequently allowed by their owners to graze on the hillsides. Owners will likewise frequently allow the cattle of others to graze on their banks. The cattle by grazing make runs which tend to turn into uncontrolled drainage channels. It is considered necessary to have power to absolutely prohibit this where considered necessary, and there is no provision in the Municipal or any other Act to cover such a case. The Cattle Trespass Act is merely permissive, in that it gives owners power to send to the pound cattle which trespass on their lands. With regard to the above recommendation, the term “cattle” should be understood to include also all the animals except elephants and camels mentioned in clause 2 of section 3 of the Cattle Trespass Act.

12. It was noted that full powers to make all necessary inspections of private property for the purposes of the proposed Act should be provided.

13. In the above paragraphs we have discussed the absence of powers vested in the Municipal Commissioners to deal with the subjects alluded to, and we consider that, in view of what we have said, legislation is absolutely necessary. We proceed to consider our recommendation as regards the authority which in future should be vested with the powers which we have indicated. We do not consider that the Municipality have an adequate staff to exercise the control necessary to the safety of the town. It can only afford an Engineer of but a few years' standing on a comparatively low salary. Moreover, the Engineer, be he ever so competent, is subject to no professional control—a matter on which we cannot lay too

much stress. Further, the work which we anticipate will be necessary in order to, as far as possible, remedy the damage caused by the recent landslips, and to minimise the danger of similar occurrences in the future will, we consider, be entirely beyond the notoriously limited resources of the Municipality. Lastly, we believe that the public at large will not feel assured unless a very radical change is made. We, therefore, do not hesitate to recommend that Government take over the entire charge of all public roads, bridges and drains at present vested in or under the control of the Municipality; also the control of buildings, public and private, as also the control of the matters referred to in paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 above in respect of revetting, the removal of stone, quarrying, turfing, planting, and cutting of trees and shrubs, terraces or circular holes for the reception of plants, and cattle-grazing.

14. Having discussed with Mr. F. G. Wigley, Assistant Secretary to the Legislative Department, as to whether this Sub-Committee should proceed to draft a Bill, it was decided that Messrs. Upton and Earle should draft clauses embodying the suggestions made in this report with a view to the preparation of a Bill, and that the Sub-Committee as a whole should then draft proposed rules thereunder. It was decided that it was useless to ask the Municipal Commissioners to pass resolutions under sections 30 and 221 of the Municipal Act requesting Government to relieve them of their duties as regards all roads, bridges, drains and buildings, as these sections do not contemplate any wholesale action, but it was resolved that it would facilitate legislation if they passed a resolution approving of the proposed Bill. It was considered desirable that the proposed Bill should contain provisions constituting the Local Government as the controlling authority, and specifying distinctly the officers of Government who would be responsible for carrying out the measures proposed by the Bill. It was thought that the Engineer or Engineers to be appointed for the purpose, the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, and the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Darjeeling, would figure as the principal agents of Government. It was considered desirable that there should be a section dealing with the question of finance, as also a very explicit section giving the Local Government power to frame rules under the Act. It was further considered that the Executive Controlling Authority should consist of a Board composed of the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling and of such Engineer or Engineers as may be appointed by Government in this behalf, and that their decision as to the necessity or cost of protective works on private land should, where such cost is estimated at more than Rs. 1,000, be subject to appeal to such Engineer of higher standing than an Executive Engineer as the Government may from time to time appoint in this behalf, and that the decision of the Board on questions of apportionment of cost of works should be subject to appeal to the Commissioner of the Division aided by two Assessors to be selected for each case or batch of cases by the Deputy Commissioner from a list of persons to act in this behalf to be prepared annually by the latter officer, the Commissioner's orders to be final, the Assessors to be consulted by him, and their opinions to be recorded in writing, but not to have the power to vote.

15. In conclusion, the Sub-Committee have ascertained that no special Act was passed for Naini Tal, and that all measures undertaken there were effected under bye-laws passed under Act 15 of 1873. The Sub-Committee have carefully perused the said Act and bye-laws, and find, for reasons given in the preceding paragraphs, that no such effective regulations could legally be enacted under the Bengal Municipal Act.

DARJEELING,

The 23rd October 1899.

APPENDIX No. 5.

NOTE BY MR. A. E. WILD, CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, BENGAL, ON THE RAINFALL AT DARJEELING ON THE 23RD, 24TH AND 25TH SEPTEMBER 1899.

Date.		Time of day.	Reading.	Amount of fall.
23rd	...	8 A.M.	111.39	...
		10.45 A.M.	120.31	8.92
24th	...	11.45 A.M.	121.04	0.73
		8 P.M.	127.30	6.26
25th	...	8 A.M.	140.76	13.46
Total			...	29.37

Total fall from 3 P.M. on 23rd to 5 A.M. on 25th, i.e. for 38 hours (with 2 hours' cessation, from 5 to 7 P.M., on 23rd), 29.37 inches.

Between 8 A.M. on 23rd and 10.45 A.M. on 24th, 8.92 inches.

Between 10.45 A.M. on 24th and 11.45 A.M., i.e. during one hour, 0.73 inches.

Between 10.45 A.M. on 24th and 8 P.M. of same day, i.e. for 9½ hours, 6.99 inches.

Between 8 P.M. on 24th and 5 A.M. on 25th, i.e. for 9 hours, 13.46 inches.

Taken with Crosby's self-registering rain-gauge by Casella, London.

NOTE.—In adopting this report the General Committee added the following words at the end of paragraph 13: "for so long a time as may be deemed necessary."

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 4th December 1899.

Burdwan.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* paddy commenced. Sugarcane and *rabi* crops doing well. Fodder and water sufficient. Condition of cattle good. Common rice selling as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	14½	} per rupee.
Kalna	14	
Katwa	16	
Raniganj	14	

Birbhum.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Rabi* cultivation continues. *Aman* being harvested. Price of common rice at Sadar and Rampur Hât 15 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* going on. Sporadic cases of cow-pox reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice 16 seers per rupee both at Bankura and Vishnupur.

Midnapore.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of winter rice and *rabi* crops very good. Harvesting of winter rice progressing. Cattle-disease reported from Binpur and Garbbeta. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	17	} per rupee.
Contai	16	
Tamluk	16	
Ghatal	15	

Hooghly.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* commenced. *Rabi* doing well. Common rice sells at 14 seers 2 chitaks per rupee.

Howrah.—No rain. Weather rather hot for the season. Harvesting of *aman* continues. Sowing of *rabi* completed. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 13½ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects good. Harvesting of *aman* paddy going on. Sowing of *rabi* crops almost finished. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	12½	} per rupee.
Barasat	17½	
Basirhat	16	
Diamond Harbour	14½	

Nadia.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Sowing of *rabi* finished. Prospects of standing crops good. Harvesting of *aman* continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice stationary.

Murshidabad.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* and sowing of *rabi* continue. *Kaki* pulse and mulberry doing well. Harvesting of early *aman* finished. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	15	} per rupee.
Jangipur	15½	
Kandi	17½	

Jessore.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Sowing of *rabi* crops over. Prospects of *aman* good. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	16	0	} per rupee.
Jhenida	18	0	
Magura	17	0	
Narail	18	13	
Bangaon	17	0	

Khulna.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of early *aman* commenced. Cultivation of *rabi* crops nearly completed. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Sadar	...	...	...	18	} per rupee.
Bagerhat	...	...	...	16	
Satkhira	...	...	...	15	

Rajshahi.—No rain. Prospects of standing crops good. Harvesting of *aman* paddy in progress. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water ample. Common rice sells at 18 seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Rainfall nil. Weather slightly cloudy. Standing crops good. Cow-pox reported from one thana. Plenty of fodder and water. Price of rice at Sadar 15½ seers and at Thakurgaon 16 seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Haimanti* paddy in good condition and ready for harvesting. Transplantation of tobacco continues. Sowing of mustard finished. Common rice sells at 15 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Darjeeling.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Hills*—*Haimanti* paddy and *kalai* being harvested; wheat, barley, *phaphar*, *tbri*, and potatoes are thriving. *Terai*—*Haimanti* paddy being reaped; potatoes, mustard and peas are progressing. Coarse rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Hills	...	...	...	10	} per rupee.
Terai	...	...	...	17	

Bhutta sells at Darjeeling 21 seers and at Kalimpong 28 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—No rain. Sowing of *rabi* crops and harvesting of *aman* in progress. Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 18 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Bogra.—Rainfall at Panchbibi 20, elsewhere nil. Cutting of paddy and *rabi* sowings continuing. Prospects good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling at 19 seers per rupee.

Pabna.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Prices stationary.

Dacca.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Harvesting of paddy going on. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling at 17 seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. State and prospects of crops fair. Common rice selling at 16 seers per rupee.

Backergunge.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 13 seers (old) and 16 seers (new) per rupee.

Tippera.—No rain. Weather cloudy at times. Harvesting of *aman* and sowing of *rabi* crops going on. Prospects fair. Average price of common rice 16½ seers per rupee.

Noakhali.—No rain. Prospects of crops good. Harvesting of *aman* commenced. Cattle-disease reported from Companiganj and Sandip. Fodder and water available. Average price of rice 16 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—No rain. Prospects of crops good. *Rabi* being sown and *aman* reaped. Water and fodder sufficient. Common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Patna.—No rain. Harvesting of paddy going on. *Rabi* crops promising well. Opium sowing finished. Condition of cattle fair. Water-supply for cattle sufficient. Common rice in Patna sells at 19 seers per rupee.

Gaya.—No rain. Harvesting of paddy and sowing of poppy continue. *Rabi* doing well. Common rice selling at 17 seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—No rain. Paddy harvesting in progress. *Rabi* prosperous. Opium progressing satisfactorily. Fodder and water abundant. Thirty-nine cases of cattle-disease in Sasaram. Rice selling at Sadar 12 seers per rupee.

Saran.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of paddy going on. *Rabi* being irrigated in places. Poppy doing well. Average price of common rice 14 seers 7 chitaks and of *makai* 15 seers 5 chitaks per rupee.

Champanan.—No rain. Harvesting of winter rice progressing. Poppy and *rabi* crops germinating well. Price of common rice 16 seers and of maize 17 seers per rupee.

Muzaffarpur.—Rainfall nil. *Rabi* sowings completed. Prospects favourable. Prices are—Common rice 14½ seers, wheat 14 seers, barley 16½ seers, *makai* 16½ seers, gram 16½ seers, *rahar* 16½ seers, and *marua* 20 seers per rupee.

Darbhanga.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Paddy harvesting in progress. *Rabi* coming on well. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease reported from Madhubani, Bahera and Sadar. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	...	14 4	} per rupee.
Samastipur	...	15 0	
Madhubani	...	18 6	

Monghyr.—No rain. Weather seasonably cool. Harvesting of winter rice going on. Sugarcane-pressing and *rabi* sowings continue. Poppy sowings nearly finished. Prospects of all crops favourable. Rain would much benefit the opium and other *rabi* crops. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Monghyr	...	13 9	} per rupee.
Beguserai	...	15 3	
Jamui	...	17 0	

Bhagalpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of paddy going on. *Rabi* sowings approaching completion. Prospects good. Cattle-disease decreasing. Fodder and water plentiful. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	...	17 10	} per rupee.
Banka	...	17 8	
Madhipura	...	19 0	
Supaul	...	19 0	

Purnea.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aghani* rice and transplantation of tobacco continue. *Rabi* sowings nearly finished. Cattle-disease reported from thana Raniganj. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.		
Sadar	...	18	} per rupee.
Kishanganj	...	16	
Araria	...	17	

Malda.—No rain. Weather cloudy and warm for the season. Prospects of crops good. Sowing of *rabi* crops still going on. Early paddy is being harvested. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Coarse rice selling at 17 seers per rupee.

Sonthal Parganas.—Rainfall nil. Weather clear and cold. Harvesting of winter rice in progress. Prospects of all crops favourable. Cattle-disease reported from Rajmahal. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice 15 seers 6 chitaks and of Indian-corn 19 seers 8 chitaks per rupee.

Cuttack.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Laghu sarad* being harvested. *Guru sarad* maturing and being harvested in places. *Arhar* and sugarcane growing. Condition of cattle generally good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Cuttack	...	15 12	} per rupee.
Jajpur	...	17 1	
Kendrapara	...	18 6	
Banki	...	16 12	

Balasore.—Rainfall nil. Cutting of *sarad* and sugarcane commenced. *Rabi* crops in flower. Rice sells at 18½ seers per rupee in the interior, and at 14 and 18 seers at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Cattle-disease reported from Basudevpur Circle. Fodder and water sufficient.

Angul.—No rain. Harvesting of winter rice in progress. Sugarcane pressing has begun. *Rabi* in the Khondmals is withering in some places. In Angul it is good. Rain urgently wanted. New rice selling at 18 seers per rupee in Angul and old rice at 8½ to 9 seers per rupee in the Khondmals. Cattle-disease reported from the interior.

Puri.—Rainfall nil. Weather delightfully cool. *Laghu* being harvested. *Bara sarad* ripening. *Moong* and winter *mandia* being sown. *Kulthi*, *biri*, &c., promising. Cattle-disease reported from certain quarters. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	...	...	...	15	1	} per rupee.
Khurda	...	...	...	13	2	
Interior of district	...	...	...	14	7	

Hazaribagh.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of rice still going on. Common rice sells at 12½ seers per rupee.

Ranchi.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of winter rice nearly completed. State of standing crops very poor. Rice sells at Ranchi 11 seers per rupee and in the interior 13½ seers. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient.

Palamau.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of paddy, *til*, and *kurthi* still going on. Sugarcane being pressed. *Rabi* wants rain. Prices at Sadar are—Rice 13½ seers, gram 16 seers 14 chitaks, *makai* 14 seers 10 chitaks, barley 18 seers, wheat 12 seers 6 chitaks, and *marua* 18 seers per rupee. Cattle-disease prevalent in some parts. Fodder and water sufficient.

Manbhum.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Winter rice an average crop. *Rabi* crops promise well. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Chandil, Purulia, and Raghunathpur. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice at Sadar 14 seers 6 chitaks and at Gobindpur 12 seers per rupee. Supply sufficient.

Singhbhum.—Rainfall nil. *Rabi* crops need rain. Average price of common rice is 16 seers. In Chaibassa it sells at 14 seers per rupee.

General Summary.—There was no rain during the week, except in Bogra. The *rabi* crop, which is of most importance in Bihar, is doing very well there. In Chota Nagpur it is, however, suffering from the absence of moisture in the soil, and the same is reported to be the case in the Khondmals. Poppy has germinated well. The harvesting of the winter rice is now proceeding in all districts and the price tends to fall. Fodder is generally sufficient. Cattle-disease of a sporadic nature is reported from some districts. The test-works opened in Puri have now been entirely closed.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
The 5th December 1899.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains and Salt in the Head

Number.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN														
		WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU (Sorghum Vulgare).		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
	BENGAL.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Burdwan Division.	1 Burdwan	12 8	12 0	14 8	...	...	...	12 8	11 6	11 0	16 0	14 8	19 0	...	...	...
	2 Birbhum	13 8	13 4	15 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...
	3 Bankura	10 0	10 0	13 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 12	15 5	14 0	21 4	...	...	...
	4 Midnapore	10 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	14 8	16 0	Old. 15 0 to 15 8 New. 17 8 to 20 0	...	...	...
	5 Hooghly	10 0	10 0	12 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 8	12 0	12 8	13 0	...	...	...
	6 Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	Old. 10 0 New. 12 4	10 8	9 14	Old. 13 0 New. 15 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...
Paschim Division.	7 24-Parganas	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 8	8 12	8 0	18 5	13 0	13 8	...	...	...
	8 Calcutta	10 0	9 6	13 0	14 8	13 0	17 12	8 0	8 0	8 0	11 6	11 6	12 4	...	...	13
	9 Nadia	16 13	13 5	13 1	...	22 13	...	7 4	7 4	6 2	12 1	12 13	16 0	...	...	...
	10 Murshidabad	Jamali. 16 0 16 0 Gangajali. 18 0	...	18 0	25 0	22 0	...	14 0	14 0	Old. 13 0 New. 15 0	18 0	13 0	17 8	...	...	...
	11 Jessore	9 0	9 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	10 0	10 8	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...
	12 Khulna	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...
Rajshahi Division.	13 Rajshahi	15 0	15 0	18 0	24 6	26 4	24 0	10 8	10 10	15 0	18 12	18 0	17 4	...	...	...
	14 Dinajpur	12 0	9 9	16 0	12 8	13 5	16 0	10 14	9-9-31	11 4	19 0	18 0	16 12	...	...	...
	15 Jalpaiguri	10 0	10 0	12 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 8	14 0	13 8	14 0	...	...	...
	16 Darjeeling	7 0	7 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	5 8	5 8	5 4	12 0	11 0	15 0	...	...	...
	17 Rangpur	11 0	11 0	11 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	7 8	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...
	18 Bogra	7 8	8 4	15 0	...	...	...	9 12	13 0	9 13	19 8	18 12	24 0	...	...	...
Dacca Division.	19 Pabna	17 4	16 8	15 0	35 0	35 0	22 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	20 0	17 10	18 6	...	...	...
	20 Dacca	9 2	9 2	13 0	32 0	32 0	26 0	10 8	10 0	12 0	18 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...
	21 Mymensingh	10 0	10 0	13 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	...	...	...
	22 Faridpur	19 0	20 0	19 0	40 0	35 0	18 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...
	23 Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 12	13 8	...	...	...

- A. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kaina 10 seers 10 chittacks; Katwa 10 seers 15 chittacks; Ranig 10½ seers.
- B. At Rampur Hat the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
- C. At Vishnupur the retail price of salt is 9½ seers per rupee.
- D. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Contai 10½ seers; Tamluk 11 seers; Ghatal 11½ seers.
- E. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Serampore 10½ seers; Jahanabad 10 seers 9 chittacks.
- F. At Ulubaria the retail price of salt is 10 seers 10½ chittacks per rupee.
- G. In the marts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Chetia 10½ seers; Barnat 11½ seers; Badra 11 seers 10 chittacks; Magrahat 10 seers 10½ chittacks.
- H. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kushtia (Bahadurkhal) 10½ seers (panga); Chuadanga 10 seers (panga); Moherpur 10 seers (karkatch); Ranaghat 10½ seers (crushed).
- I. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Lalbagh 11 seers; Jangipur 10 seers; Kandi return not received.
- J. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jhenida 10 seers; Magura 9½ seers; Narail 10 seers; Bangaon 10 seers 10 chittacks.

KANONI OR KAKUN,
ITALIAN MILLET.
(*Setaria Italica*.)

GRAM, CHHOLA, KAM
OR SUNAM
(*Oryza sativa*.)

Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.	Corresponding turn of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding re- turn.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
...	13 8	13 0
...	13 8	13 0
...	12 0	12 0
...	14 0	12 8
...	12 0	12 0
...	16 0	16 0
...	14 4	14 0
10 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	11 0
...	20 0	16 13
...	21 0	20 0
...	16 0	12 8
...	10 0	11 0
...	17 4	18 0
...	12 12	14 8
...	13 8	15 8
...	10 0	10 0
...	10 0	10 0
...	15 0	15 0
...	15 0	16 0
...	11 8	12 8
...	9 0	9 0
...	20 0	10 0
...	9 0	9 0

Quarters Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 30th November 1899.

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE. (Zea mays.)			ARHAR OR TUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus Indicus.)			SALT.			SALT.			WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.			DISTRICTS.	Number.
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.		
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	BENGAL.	
...	11 8	10 0	...	A 11 8	11 8	11 8	Crushed.	11 8	3 4	0 3	4 0	3 4	Burduwan.	1
...	9 0	9 0	...	B 10 8	10 8	10 8	Karkatch.	10 8	3 10	6 3	10 6	3 10	Birbhum.	2
...	10 0	10 0	12 0	C 10 0	10 0	10 0	0 4	0 0	4 0	0 4	0 0	4 0	Bankura.	3
...	9 0	8 0	...	D 11 0	11 0	11 0	Panga.	11 0	3 7	0 3	8 0	3 8	Midnapore.	4
...	8 0	8 0	11 0	E 10 0	10 0	10 0	Crushed.	10 0	3 12	0 3	12 0	3 12	Hooghly.	5
...	11 0	11 4	11 4	F 10 9	10 9	10 8	3 8	0 3	8 0	3 8	0 3	8 0	Howrah.	6
...	10 8	9 0	11 8	G 10 12	10 12	10 6	3 6	0 3	6 0	3 6	0 3	12 0	24-Parganas.	7
11 8	12 4	22 0	9 6	9 0	12 4	H 11 0	11 0	10 0	3 5	0 3	5 0	3 5	0 3	6 0	Calcutta.	8
...	11 7	10 10	...	I 12 5	11 7	11 7	3 4	0 3	8 0	3 8	0 3	8 0	Nadia.	9
...	11 0	11 0	...	J 9 4	11 0	10 12	3 6	0 3	6 0	3 6	0 3	10 0	Murshidabad.	10
...	K 9 4	9 2	10 0	3 12	0 3	12 0	3 12	0 3	14 0	Jessore.	11
...	10 0	10 0	11 0	L 10 0	10 0	10 0	3 12	0 3	12 0	3 12	0 3	12 0	Khulna.	12
...	16 8	17 4	23 12	M 9 12	9 12	9 12	3 13	4 8	13 4	8 13	4 8	13 4	Rajahm.	13
...	8 0	6 0	...	N 10 0	10 0	10 8	4 0	0 4	0 0	3 10	6 3	10 6	Dinajpur.	14
...	9 0	9 0	12 0	O 10 0	10 0	10 0	3 10	0 3	10 0	3 10	0 3	11 0	Jalpaiguri.	15
20 0	20 0	26 0	7 0	6 8	8 0	P 8 0	8 0	8 0	4 12	0 5	0 0	5 0	0 5	0 0	Darjeeling.	16
19 0	18 0	18 0	7 0	8 0	9 0	Q 9 0	9 0	9 0	4 0	0 4	0 0	4 0	0 4	0 0	Rangpur.	17
...	R 9 12	9 12	9 12	3 10	8 4	0 0	3 14	8 4	0 0	Bogra.	18
...	9 0	9 0	12 8	S 9 12	9 12	9 12	3 14	0 3	14 0	3 14	0 3	14 0	Pabna.	19
...	10 0	10 0	...	T 10 0	10 0	10 0	3 9	0 3	8 0	3 10	0 3	10 0	Dacca.	20
...	8 0	8 0	10 0	U 10 0	10 0	9 8	4 0	0 4	0 0	4 0	0 4	0 0	Mymensingh.	21
...	8 0	8 0	...	V 10 0	10 0	10 0	4 0	0 3	10 0	4 0	0 3	10 0	Faridpur.	22
...	W 10 0	10 0	10 0	3 10	0 3	10 0	3 12	0 3	12 0	Backergunge.	23

- K. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Bagerhat 10½ seers ; Satkhira 11½ seers.
 L. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Nator 10½ seers ; Naugmon 9 seers 10 chittacks.
 M. In the Alipur Duars the retail prices of salt is 8 seers per rupee.
 N. Price of salt at Kurseong Rs. 4-8 and at Siliguri Rs. 4-4 per maund.
 O. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Kurigram 8 seers ; Gaibandha 10 seers ; Nilphamari 10 seers.
 P. At Sirajganj the retail price of salt is 11½ seers per rupee.
 Q. In the marts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Madanganj 10 seers 10 chittacks ; Mirkadim 11 seers 6 chittacks ; Manikganj 9 seers.
 R. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Kishorganj 10 seers ; Jamalpur 10 seers ; Kaganari 8 seers ; Netrokona 9½ seers.
 S. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Goalundo 10 seers ; Madaripur 10½ seers.
 T. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Pirojpur 8 seers ; Patuakhali 9 seers ; Bhola 9 seers.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains and Salt in the Head-quarters

Number		DISTRICTS	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN														
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU (Sorghum Vulgare).		
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
BENGAL—concluded.		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.	24	Tippura ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	13 0	16 0	14 9	20 0	...	...	...
	25	Noakhali ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...
	26	Chittagong ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 8	10 4	12 0	16 0	15 4	14 0	...	...	...
BIHAR.																	
PATNA DIVISION.	27	Patna ...	16 0	15 0	20 0.	21 8	18 8	31 0	15 0	14 0	15 0	19 8	17 8	21 0	19 0	...	...
	28	Gaya ...	14 8	13 0	16 8	19 8	18 8	27 0	11 0	10 0	11 0	15 0	15 0	19 8	18 8	18 8	26 0
	29	Shahabad ...	12 0	12 8	18 8	18 0	16 8	...	8 0	8 0	9 8	15 0	13 8	15 0	...	...	...
	30	Saran ...	12 0	12 0	17 0	18 0	15 0	25 8	10 0	10 0	9 0	13 12	12 0	16 8	...	...	...
	31	Champaran ...	15 0	13 0	14 8	18 0	17 8	21 0	7 0	7 4	6 8	16 0	14 8	15 8	...	...	...
	32	Munshipur ...	14 0	14 0	16 0	16 8	16 0	25 0	7 0	6 0	7 0	14 0	13 2	13 0	...	...	...
BHAGALPUR DIVISION.	33	Darbhanga ...	12 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	9 0	8 0	11 0	14 4	12 0	12 0	...	...	...
	34	Monghyr ...	14 0	14 2	18 0	20 0	16 12	22 0	10 0	9 15	10 8	12 4	12 1	14 0	...	...	...
	35	Bhagalpur ...	15 2	13 4	16 8	20 3	20 4	28 0	11 5	11 5	12 0	17 10	15 2	19 0	...	...	...
	36	Purnea (Kasba) ...	14 0	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...
	37	Malda ...	12 0	14 0	18 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	10 0	New. 18 0 17 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...
	38	Sonthal Parganas ...	11 0	11 0	13 8	19 0	19 0	20 0	11 0	12 0	12 4	15 0	14 0	23 8	...	...	...
ORISSA.																	
ORISSA DIVISION.	39	Cuttack ...	9 8	9 14	11 13	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	10 8	15 12	14 7	16 6	...	...	...
	40	Balasore ...	13 0	13 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	12 0	13 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...
	41	Puri ...	9 8	9 8	10 0	...	...	...	8 8	9 3	9 3	16 1	14 7	17 2	...	...	...
CHOTA NAGPUR.																	
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.	42	Hazaribagh ...	12 0	11 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	8 0	6 8	8 0	New. 13 0, 13 0 Old. 12 0, 11 8	17 8	...	...	...	...
	43	Ranchi ...	7 8 to 11 8	7 8 to 11 8	6 8 to 12 0	...	14 0	16 0	8 0	7 8	16 0	12 6	11 0	19 0	...	...	...
	44	Palamau ...	12 6	11 13	18 0	16 0	16 14	30 6	11 4	10 2	15 12	13 8	11 13	20 4	...	...	...
	45	Manbhum ...	10 8	10 0	18 0	16 8	...	10 0	9 8	9 8	11 0	New. 14 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	...	25 0
	46	Singhbhum ...	12 0	12 0	8 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	16 0	15 0	14 0	20 0	...	...	...

- U. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Brahmanbaria 10 seers; Chandpur 9 seers.
V. At Feni HAT the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
W. At Cox's Bazar the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.
X. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Bihar 10 seers; Barh 10½ seers; Dinapore 10 seers.
Y. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jahanabad 10 seers 10 chittacks; Aurangabad 10 seers; Nawada 10 seers.
Z. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Buxar 11 seers; Sasaram 10½ seers; Bhabua 10 seers.
a. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Siwan 11 seers 3 chittacks; Gopalganj 12 seers 10 chittacks.
b. At Bettiah the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
c. In the Hajipur and Sitamarhi subdivisions the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
d. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Samastipur 11 seers; Madhubani 10 seers 2 chittacks.

MAKUA OR CUMBU.
Marua cyphoides (Lam.)
MARUA OR RAGI.
(*Eleusine Cynodora*.)

2428a

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food

Number	DISTRICTS.	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, &c.			
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
BENGAL—concluded.											
CUTTACK DIVISION.	24	Tippura ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	0	1
	25	Noakhali ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	0	1
	26	Chittagong ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	8	1
BIHAR.											
PATNA DIVISION.	27	Patna ...	16 0	15 0	20 0.	21 8	18 8	31 0	15 0	14	0
	28	Gaya ...	14 8	13 0	16 8	19 8	18 8	27 0	11 0	10	0
	29	Shahabad ...	12 0	12 8	18 8	18 0	16 8	...	8 0	8	0
	30	Saran ...	12 0	12 0	17 0	18 0	15 0	25 8	10 0	10	0
	31	Champaran ...	15 0	13 0	14 8	18 0	17 8	31 0	7 0	7	0
	32	Munafarpur ...	14 0	14 0	16 0	16 8	16 0	25 0	7 0	6	0
BAGALPUR DIVISION.	33	Darbhanga ...	12 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	9 0	8	0
	34	Monghyr ...	14 0	14 2	18 0	20 0	16 12	22 0	10 0	9	0
	35	Bhagalpur ...	15 2	13 4	16 8	20 3	20 4	28 0	11 5	11	0
	36	Purnea (Kasba) ...	14 0	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	12 0	...	...
	37	Malda ...	12 0	14 0	18 0	...	...	...	9 0	...	...
	38	Southal Pargana ...	11 0	11 0	13 8	19 0	19 0	20 0	11 0	...	...
ORISSA.											
ORISSA DIVISION.	39	Outback ...	9 8	9 14	11 13	...	...	...	10 8	10	0
	40	Balasore ...	13 0	13 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	12 0	13	0
	41	Puri ...	9 8	9 8	10 0	...	...	...	8 8	9	0
CHOTA NAGPUR.											
CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION.	42	Hazaribagh ...	12 0	11 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	8 0	6	0
	43	Ranchi ...	7 8 to 11 8	7 8 to 11 8	6 8 to 12 0	...	14 0	16 0	8 0	7	0
	44	Palamau ...	12 0	11 13	18 0	18 0	16 14	30 6	11 4	10	0
	45	Manbhum ...	10 8	10 0	13 0	16 8	...	10 0	9 8	...	...
	46	Singhbhum ...	12 0	12 0	8 0	...	...	...	14 0	13	0

- U. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Brahmanbaria 10 seers
V. At Feni Hat the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
W. At Cox's Bazar the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.
X. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Bihar 10 seers ; Bar
Y. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Jahanabad 10 seers 10
Z. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Buxar 11 seers ; Sa
a. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Siwan 11 seers 8 chi
b. At Bettiah the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
c. In the Hajipur and Sitamarhi subdivisions the retail price of salt is 10 seers pe
d. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Samastipur 11 seers

KANONI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (Setaria Italica.)			GRAM, CHHOLA, CHHOLA, KADAM, OR SUNAGA (Cicer arvensis)		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
...
...	12 0	12 0	12
...	10 4	10 0	13
15 0	15 0	24 0	20 0	18 8	25
14 0	12 0	14 8	18 0	17 0	25
...	13 0	...	16 0	16 8	21
12 0	...	16 0	17 0	15 8	22
...	15 8	15 8	21
...	16 0	15 0	19
...	14 0	14 0	18
...	19 0	16 8	22
...	17 10	...	...
...	16 0	18 0	...
...	17 0	16 0	22
...	13 0	14 0	17
...	17 1	15 12	17
...	11 0	13 0	13
...	16 0	118 0	16
...	15 1	14 7	17
...	15 0	14 8	13
...	14 0	13 0	...
...	15 0	14 0	...
...	16 14	15 8	...
...	12 0	11 8	...
...	12 0	12 0	...

Station Bazaars of the Districts of Bengal on the 30th November 1899 —(concluded).

												WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.			DISTRICT.	Numl. or.
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (Zomays.)			ARHAR OR THUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus indicus.)			SALT.			SALT.							
Present return.	Next return.	preceding return of last year.	Present return.	Next return.	preceding return of last year.	Present return.	Next return.	preceding return of last year.	Present return.	Next return.	preceding return of last year.					
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	M. A. P.					
												BENGAL—concluded.				
...	...	...	...	...	...	U	10 0	10 0	Panga.	8 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	Tippera.	24
...	...	...	...	...	...	V	9 0	9 0	Panga.	9 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Noakhali.	25
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	...	W	10 8	10 0	10 8	3 6 0	3 8 0	3 10 0	Chittagong.	26
												BIHAR.				
20 0	18 0	36 0	14 0	12 0	...	X	11 0	11 0	Panga.	11 0	3 7 0	3 8 0	Patna.	27		
...	...	28 0	11 0	11 0	...	Y	10 12	10 0	10 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	3 14 0	Gaya.	28		
18 0	14 0	31 8	16 0	...	...	Z	10 0	10 0	10 8	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 13 0	Shahabad.	29
15 4	15 0	26 0	12 12	11 0	...	a	10 12	11 0	10 8	3 11 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Saran.	30		
17 0	16 12	24 0	10 8	10 8	...	b	10 8	10 8	10 4	3 13 0	3 13 0	3 13 0	Champaran.	31		
16 12	16 0	25 0	10 8	10 8	...	c	11 8	11 4	Crushed.	11 0	3 7 0	3 8 0	Musaffarpur.	32		
16 0	15 8	27 8	15 0	13 8	...	d	10 0	10 8	10 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Darbhanga.	33		
13 8	...	35 0	16 0	13 6	13 10	e	10 0	10 8	10 0	4 0 0	3 8 6	4 0 0	Monghyr.	34		
17 10	17 10	38 0	10 11	10 2	...	f	10 0	10 2	10 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Bhagalpur	35		
...	...	...	9 0	9 0	...	g	10 8	10 8	Panga.	10 8	3 12 0	3 12 0	Purnea (Kasba).	36
...	...	...	12 0	10 0	...	h	10 0	10 0	Karkatch.	9 0	4 0 0	4 4 0	Malda.	37
19 0	19 0	39 0	15 0	16 0	23 8	i	10 0	10 0	Panga.	10 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	Sonthal Pargana.	38		
												ORISSA.				
...	...	...	17 1	15 12	19 11	j	10 12	10 12	Karkatch.	10 12	3 0 0	3 0 0	Outtack.	39
...	...	...	8 8	8 0	10 8	k	11 8	11 8	Panga.	11 8	3 8 0	3 9 0	Balasore.	40
...	...	...	10 8	10 8	10 2	l	13 4	13 4	Karkatch.	13 4	3 0 0	3 0 0	Puri.	41
												CHOTA NAGPUR.				
15 0	15 0	26 0	13 4	13 4	...	m	9 0	9 8	8 0	4 7 0	4 3 0	4 3 6	Hamariabagh.	42		
18 0	...	24 0	8 0	8 0	...	n	9 8	9 8	9 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	Ranchi.	43		
14 10	14 1	30 12	11 4	11 4	...	o	9 0	9 0	Panga.	9 4	...	...	Palaman.	44
17 0	17 0	...	10 0	9 0	...	p	10 8	10 8	Panga.	10 0	3 11 0	3 11 0	Manbhum.	45		
20 0	20 0	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	q	7 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	Singbhum.	46		

- a. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Begusarai 11 seers; Jamui 10½ seers.
f. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Banka 10 seers; Madhipura 9½ seers; Supaul 10 seers.
g. In the Kishanganj and Araria subdivisions the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
h. At Balia Nawalganj the retail price of salt (karkatch or panga) is 10 seers per rupee.
i. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Deoghur 10½ seers; Godda 10 seers; Jamtara 11 seers; Pakaur 11 seers; Rajmahal 11 seers.
j. In the Jajpur and Kendrapara subdivisions the retail price of salt (panga) is 9 seers per rupee.
k. At Bhadrak the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
l. At Khurda the retail price of salt is 12½ seers per rupee.
m. At Gobindpur the retail price of salt is 10 seers 10 chittacks per rupee.

Published for general information.

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

KANGNI OR KAKUM, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Setaria Italica</i> .)						GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KALAKA OR SUNAGA (<i>Cicer arctium</i> .)					
Present return.		Next preceding re- turn.		Corresponding re- turn of last year.		Present return.		Next preceding re- turn.		Corresponding re- turn of last year.	
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...
...	12 0	12 0	12	...	...	...	...
...	10 4	10 0	13	...	...	...	...
15 0	15 0	24 0	20 0	18 8	25	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 0	12 0	14 8	18 0	17 0	25	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	13 0	...	16 0	16 8	24	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 0	...	16 0	17 0	15 8	23	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	15 8	15 8	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	16 0	15 0	19	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	14 0	14 0	19	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	19 0	16 8	22	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	17 10	16 6	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	17 0	16 0	22	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	13 0	14 0	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	17 1	15 12	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	11 0	13 0	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	16 0	116 0	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	15 1	14 7	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	15 0	14 8	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	15 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	16 14	15 3	22	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	12 0	11 8	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 30th November 1899 —(concluded).

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (Zeamays.)												WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.			DISTRICTS.	Nunber.
ARRAR OR THUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus indicus.)						SALT.			SALT.							
Present return.	Next return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next return.	Corresponding return of last year.					
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	BENGAL—concluded.				
...	...	...	...	...	...	U	10 0	10 0	Panga.	8 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	Tippera.	24
...	...	...	...	...	...	V	9 0	9 0	Panga.	9 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Noakhali.	25
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	...	W	10 8	10 0	10 8	3 6 0	3 8 0	3 10 0	Chittagong.	26
20 0	18 0	36 0	14 0	12 0	...	X	11 0	11 0	Panga.	11 0	3 7 0	3 8 0	Patna.	27		
...	...	26 0	11 0	11 0	...	Y	10 12	10 0	10 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	3 14 0	Gaya.	28		
18 0	14 0	31 8	16 0	...	...	Z	10 0	10 0	10 8	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 18 0	Shahabad.	29
15 4	15 0	26 0	12 12	11 0	...	a	10 12	11 0	10 8	3 11 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Saran.	30		
17 0	16 12	24 0	10 8	10 8	...	b	10 8	10 8	10 4	3 18 0	3 18 0	3 18 0	Champaran.	31		
16 12	16 0	25 0	10 8	10 8	...	c	11 8	11 4	Crushed.	11 0	3 7 0	3 8 0	Muzaffarpur.	32		
16 0	15 8	27 8	15 0	13 8	...	d	10 0	10 8	10 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Darbhanga.	33		
13 8	...	35 0	16 0	13 6	13 10	e	10 0	10 8	10 0	4 0 0	3 8 6	4 0 0	Monghyr.	34		
17 10	17 10	38 0	10 11	10 2	...	f	10 0	10 2	10 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Shahalgur.	35		
...	...	...	9 0	9 0	...	g	10 8	10 8	Panga.	10 8	3 12 0	3 12 0	Purnea (Kasba).	36
...	...	...	12 0	10 0	...	h	10 0	10 0	Karkatch.	9 0	4 0 0	4 4 0	Malda.	37
19 0	19 0	39 0	15 0	16 0	23 8	i	10 0	10 0	Panga.	10 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	Sonthal Pargana.	38		
...	17 1	15 12	19 11	j	10 12	10 12	Crushed.	9 4	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 14 0			
...	8 8	8 0	10 8	k	11 8	11 8	Panga.	11 8	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 9 0	Balasore.	40	
...	10 8	10 8	10 2	l	13 4	13 4	Karkatch.	13 4	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	Puri.	41	
15 0	15 0	26 0	13 4	13 4	...	m	9 0	9 8	8 0	4 7 0	4 8 0	4 8 6	Hasaribagh.	42		
18 0	...	24 0	8 0	8 0	...	n	9 8	9 8	9 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	Ranchi.	43		
14 10	14 1	30 12	11 4	11 4	...	o	9 0	9 0	Panga.	9 4	...	...	Palaman.	44
17 0	17 0	...	10 0	9 0	...	p	10 8	10 8	Panga.	10 0	3 11 0	3 11 0	3 12 0	Manbhum.	45	
20 0	20 0	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	q	10 0	10 0	7 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 4 0	Singbhum.	46		

- a. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Begusarai 11 seers; Jamui 10½ seers.
 f. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Banka 10 seers; Madhipura 9½ seers; Supaul 10 seers.
 g. In the Kishanganj and Araria subdivisions the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.
 h. At Balia Nawabganj the retail price of salt (karkatch or panga) is 10 seers per rupee.
 i. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Deoghur 10½ seers; Godda 10 seers; Jamtara 11 seers; Pakaur 11 seers; Rajmahal 11 seers.
 j. In the Jajpur and Kendrapara subdivisions the retail price of salt (panga) is 9 seers per rupee.
 k. At Bhadrak the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
 l. At Khurda the retail price of salt is 12½ seers per rupee.
 m. At Gobindpur the retail price of salt is 10 seers 10 chittacks per rupee.

Published for general information.

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (wholesale) of Food-grains, Firewood, &c.

Number.	MARKS.												
		RICE (BEST SORT).			COMMON RICE (meta chaul).			WHEAT (Triticum sativum).			BARLEY (Hordeum vulgare).		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
1	Calcutta ...	4 12 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	3 0 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	2 12 0	2 2
2	Burdwan ...	3 4 0	3 8 0	3 12 0	2 8 0	2 12 0	2 1 0	3 2 0	3 4 0	2 12 0	...	...	...
3	Midnapore ...	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	Old 2 4 0 to 2 8 0 Now, 1 14 0 to 2 2 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Patna ...	6 2 0	6 2 0	6 2 0	2 0 0	2 4 3	2 2 6	2 5 0	2 6 6	2 10 6	...	...	...
5	Rangpur ...	4 8 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	2 8 0	2 8 0	2 12 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	...	...	...
6	Dacca ...	3 10 0	3 11 0	3 4 0	2 4 0	2 4 0	2 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	2 14 0	1 4 0	1 4 0	1 8
7	Chittagong ...	3 8 0	3 12 0	3 8 0	2 8 0	2 12 0	2 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Patna ...	2 10 0	2 12 0	2 9 0	2 0 0	2 3 6	1 13 0	2 7 0	2 10 0	1 14 6	1 13 0	2 1 6	1 4
9	Muzaffarpur ...	5 5 0	5 11 4	5 11 6	2 10 6	2 13 9	3 1 3	2 10 6	2 10 6	2 8 0	2 4 6	2 3 6	1 9
10	Bhagalpur ...	3 8 0	3 8 10	3 5 3	2 4 0	2 10 7	2 2 6	2 5 9	3 0 10	2 6 9	2 0 0	2 0 0	1 6
11	Cuttack ...	3 6 6	3 6 0	3 6 3	2 5 6	2 8 6	2 2 9	4 2 0	3 14 0	3 3 0	...	...	...
12	Ranchi ...	5 0 0	5 6 6	3 7 6	3 3 7	3 10 3	2 1 6	3 7 6 to 5 6 6	3 7 6 to 5 6 6	3 5 0 to 4 11 0	...	2 13 3	2 3

CALCUTTA,
The 5th December 1899.

JWAR OR CHOLUM (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i>).			BAJRA OR CUMBU (<i>Pennisetum typhoides</i>).			MARUA OR RAGI (<i>Elaeina corocana</i>).			GRAM, CHANA, CHOLA, KADALAY, OR HUNAGA (<i>Vicia arietinum</i>).		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
...	2 0 0	4 4 0	4 8 0	2 8 0	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 4 0	2 4 0
...	2 12 0	3 2 0	2 8 0
...
...	2 10 0	2 8 0	2 6 6
...	3 8 0	3 4 0	2 4 0
...	3 2 0	3 2 0	2 9 0
...	3 10 0	3 12 0	3 0 0
1 0	1 8 0	1 15 0	2 1 6	1 8 9
...	1 14 6	2 0 0	1 9 6	2 5 6	2 8 0	2 1 6
...	2 4 0	2 7 6	1 13 6
...	Biri or kalai.		...
...	2 4 0	2 5 6	2 2 9
...	{ 2 10 6 to 2 13 3 }		2 8 0
...	{ 2 13 3 to 3 1 0 }		2 8 0

PRICES PER MAUND

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (Zea mays).			ARHAR DAL OR TUR - CADJAN PEA (Cajanus indicus).			LINSSEED.			MUSTARD AND RAPSEED.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
2 12 0	3 0 0	1 8 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	5 4 0	5 8 0	4 4 0	4 0 0	4 4 0	4 0
...	...	...	3 8 0	4 0 0	3 2 0	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 3 0	3 7
...	...	...	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 10 0	3 13 0	Black mustard. 4 8 0 to 4 10 0 to 4 12 0		
...	...	...	3 15 0	3 15 0	3 2 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	3 8 0	3 2 0	3 8 0	2 13
2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	4 12 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	3 14 0	3 12 0	4 0
...	...	...	3 12 0	3 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 12 0	4 12 0	...	...	...	...	4 6 0	4 4 0	4 0
1 15 0	2 2 6	1 1 3	2 12 0	3 0 0	...	4 8 0	4 0 0	3 4 0	3 9 0	3 14 0	3 4
2 5 6	2 5 6	1 9 6	3 10 0	3 10 0	2 13 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 4 0	2 4 7	1 0 9	3 10 5	4 0 0	...	4 4 0	4 6 6	3 10 0	4 4 0	4 3 3	3 10
...	...	...	2 4 0	2 5 6	1 14 6	...	...	...	3 12 0	3 12 0	4 0
...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	4 0 0	6 2 3	6 2 3	(3 1 3 15

STANDARD SEERS.

TIL OR JINJILI SEED.			SUGAR (RAW).			COTTON, CLEANED.			JUTE		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
4 4 0	4 4 0	4 1 0	4 1 0	5 6 0	5 10 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 12 0
...	...	...	5 10 0	5 12 0	5 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	14 0 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	5 0 0	{ 4 12 0 to 5 0 0 }	{ 6 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 to 20 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 to 20 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 }	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 8 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	24 0 0	5 12 0	5 12 0	4 8 0
...	...	...	6 12 0	7 0 0	6 0 0	...	...	...	4 4 0	4 0 0	4 0 0
...	...	...	5 12 0	5 12 0	6 0 0	...	...	...	4 8 0	5 0 0	4 2 0
...	...	...	5 2 0	5 4 0	4 12 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	18 0 0	...	...	...
14 0	4 10 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	8 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	12 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	3 0 0
...	...	...	2 9 3	2 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	3 3 2	4 0 0	3 7 0	20 12 0	20 12 10	15 8 0	...	...	...
3 10 0	3 10 0	3 8 6	5 12 0	5 12 0	4 12 0	24 8 0	24 8 0	24 8 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	{ 5 0 0 to 5 6 6 }	{ 4 11 0 to 5 8 6 }	{ 4 0 0 to 5 0 0 }	{ 22 12 0 }	{ 22 12 0 }	{ 17 12 0 }	...	...	{ ... }








GHI (CLARIFIED BUTTER).			TOBACCO LEAF.			HIDES (COW).			GRASS.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.
35 0 0	35 0 0	34 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	250 0 0	250 0 0	246 0 0	0 13 0	0 13 0	0 14 0
31 12 0	32 0 0	29 8 0	... Madhakhali. { 8 8 0 } { 7 8 0 } 5 12 0 Pulta. { 9 4 0 } 8 12 0 8 4 0			... Uncleaned hides, per piece— { 0 12 0 } { 0 14 0 } { 0 12 0 } to 2 8 0 to 2 6 0 to 2 4 0 Cleaned hides, per piece— { 1 0 0 } { 1 6 0 } { 1 0 0 } to 2 12 0 to 2 10 0 to 2 8 0			...	...	...
58 0 0	58 0 0	52 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	7 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
36 0 0	35 0 0	34 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 6 0
36 0 0	36 0 0	42 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0
45 0 0	45 0 0	40 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	18 8 0	18 8 0	20 0 0	...	...	...
29 0 0	29 0 0	27 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 4 0
30 7 6	30 7 6	30 7 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
33 0 0	36 6 6	33 0 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
29 0 0	29 0 0	35 0 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 8 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	0 8 11	0 8 11	0 8 0
27 18 0	27 18 0	26 13 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	per maund. 1 0 0 | 1 0 0 | 1 0 0 per piece.			0 2 8	0 2 8	0 2 0
0 0 0	24 0 0	32 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0						

the undermentioned *Marts* of Bengal on the 30th November 1899.

STRAW.			JUAN STALKS.			PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 STANDARD SERS.									MARTS.
						IRON.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.				Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	Ra. A. P.	
10 0	0 10 0	0 12 0	...	...	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	5 4 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 7 0	8 5 0	8 5 0	8 6 0	1. Calcutta.
3 0	0 8 0	0 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	8 4 0	8 4 0	8 4 0	2. Burdwan.
2 5	0 2 5	{ 0 2 3 to 0 3 9 }	...	...	...	{ 8 8 0 to 4 12 0 }	{ 4 0 0 to 4 8 0 }	{ 3 0 0 to 5 0 0 }	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 8 0	8 7 0	8 8 0	8 8 0	3. Midnapore.
12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	...	...	...	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	8 14 0	8 14 0	8 14 0	4. Pabna.
7 0	0 7 0	0 8 0	...	...	...	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	0 5 3	0 5 3	0 5 3	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	5. Rangpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	8 9 0	8 8 0	8 10 0	6. Dacca.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	8 6 0	8 8 0	8 10 0	7. Chittagong.
...	...	0 4 0	...	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	0 5 0	0 5 6	0 5 0	8 7 0	8 7 6	8 8 0	8. Patna.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 11 6	5 11 6	8 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	8 7 0	8 8 0	8 10 0	9. Munaffarpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	6 0 0	6 6 6	5 0 0	0 5 9	0 6 0	0 6 6	8 12 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	10. Bhagalpur.
9 6	0 9 6	0 10 0	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11. Outback.
No fixed rate.			...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 11 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	12. Ranchi.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 26th November to 2nd December 1899.

Month	Date	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.				Inches.	°	°		°	°	Inches	°	%			Inches.	
Nov.	26th	138.7	8.3	30.027	70.4	82.3	20.7	61.6	66.3	0.593	63.8	81	W by N and calm	26	Nil	Chiefly clear, 
"	27th	134.9	9.2	29.983	70.7	83.3	21.8	61.5	65.9	.576	63.0	79	WNW and calm	22	"	Clear, 
"	28th	136.0	8.9	30.004	70.7	82.7	19.7	63.0	65.5	.561	62.2	77	W and calm	36	"	Chiefly clear, 
"	29th	129.4	8.7	.046	68.0	81.3	23.0	58.3	62.0	.478	57.3	72	Calm and variable	14	"	Clear, 
"	30th	133.2	8.5	.068	68.0	81.0	23.3	57.7	62.8	.504	59.2	76	NNW and calm	27	"	Chiefly clear, 
Dec.	1st	133.4	6.7	.007	68.3	80.6	20.8	59.8	63.6	.523	60.4	78	WNW and calm	32	"	Chiefly clear, 
"	2nd	135.9	8.8	29.989	68.5	80.3	21.4	59.4	63.7	.527	60.4	76	NW and calm	29	"	Chiefly clear, 

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.016
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Hours.
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59.1
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69.2
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	71.1
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.6
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83.3
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Miles.
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
The total fall of rain from 26th November to 2nd December 1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Inches.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
The total fall from 1st January to 2nd December 1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	71.95
The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65.16



The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86 formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beekley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

 , dew ;  , fog.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 4th December 1899.

G. W. KÜCHLER,
for Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India
and Director-General of Indian Observatories.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1898-1900.
Areas leased for Irrigation up to end of October 1899.

CIRCLE.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation up to the same date last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.										Rainfall, 1898-99.		REMARKS.		
								Season leases.										Grand Total.	During month.		Up to end of month.	
								Long-term leases.	Khairi.	Bahl.	Sugarcane.	Bhadol.	Hot-weather.	Total.								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
OCHRA	Cuttack	Taldanda, 1st reach	1,248	531	240	18,221	17,766	14,016	4,295	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,295	18,311	8,06	58.51	19.30	57.98	Kulsi.
		Ditto, 2nd "	565	316	240	18,221	17,766	14,016	4,295	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,295	18,311	8,06	58.51	19.30	57.98	Balia.
		Machgaon	776	331	440	25,553	23,476	24,163	11,790	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11,790	36,992	7,789	48.98	12.97	48.76	Jagatsingpur.
		Kendrapara	1,067	385	727	53,675	51,980	44,631	7,044	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,044	53,675	8,524	54.74	8.43	56.71	Kendrapara.
		Gobri	873	46	31	3,749	3,799	3,431	220	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	220	3,761	9,70	53.22	11.40	59.33	Kendrapara.
		Do. Extension	2,457	2,460	3,438	Kendrapara.
		Patamundi	.....	.....	.....	14,525	14,716	13,250	1,476	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,476	14,726	9,74	57.51	5.40	58.31	Nurtang.
		High Level, Range I	608	409	267	22,806	22,319	21,567	1,297	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,298	22,865	7,68	54.00	5.94	58.68	Janapur.
		Ditto, do. II	727	37	13	3,046	2,998	2,998	50	50	3,046	No gauge.
		Jajpur Canal	700	105	83	10,523	10,810	9,013	1,717	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,791	10,504	12,59	53.46	7.87	56.23	Jajpur.
SOUTH-WESTERN DIV.	Midnapore	High Level, Range III	727	378	378	20,943	21,301	23,858	1,413	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,764	20,630	11.37	55.93	7.68	56.53	Akhyaspara.
		Total	.....	.....	.....	186,366	190,404	164,460	29,291	.....	.....	263	29,728	196,208	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Total of the corresponding period of last year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	184,963	4,128	.....	.....	389	4,717	186,683	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Midnapore	1,411	315.96	316.70	62,155	54,323	62,464	62,464	5.06	65.49	4.93	58.75	30 days discharging.
		Panchkura	522	17.01	24.30	2,008	4,044	6,507	6,507	4.23	74.89	4.73	48.94	14 "
		Tidal Reaches, Ranges I & II	131	1,305	1,397	1,397
		Total	64,414	59,761	70,363	70,363
		Total of the corresponding period of last year
		Western Main	4,343	2,899	194	19,150	20,172	12,535	6,301
		Buxar	1,286	611	607	84,553	80,904	66,385	11,567	54
SOUTH	Shahabad	Arrah	2,000	1,770	1,767	192,632	192,933	191,090	26,899	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Eastern Main	.....	.....	.....	3,291	2,894	1,714	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Patna	1,408	1,092	1,018	75,060	78,354	67,351	14,351	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Patna and Gaya.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Total	241,986	246,997	239,235	54,940	915
		Total of the corresponding period of last year
		GRAND TOTAL	607,606	609,102	606,083	83,631	915
		Grand Total of the corresponding period of last year
		Grand Total of the corresponding period of last year

* There are no separate leases for sugarcane on the Bone Canals. All leased fields of that crop now come under one of the other heads.

CALCUTTA,

The 4th December 1899.

A. H. C. MACARTHY,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Major Works for the month of October 1899, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.			TOLLAGE, 1898-99.		
	During the month.			During the month.		
1	2			4		
	3			5		
<i>Orissa Circle.</i>	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Taldanda Canal System	741	8	9	6,695	10	6
Kendrapara ditto	5,681	1	3	37,201	0	4
High Level Canal, Range I	1,003	14	3	7,575	14	3
Ditto, " II	205	10	6	1,711	14	9
Ditto, " III	84	14	6	885	5	9
Jajpur Canal	18	11	9	242	9	6
Total Orissa Circle	7,735	13	0	54,312	7	1
<i>South-Western Circle.</i>						
Midnapore Canal	8,697	2	3	57,176	2	9
Hijili Tidal Canal	3,871	1	3	33,446	15	0
Total South-Western Circle	12,568	3	6	90,623	1	9
<i>Sone Circle.</i>						
Patna Canal System	4,877	15	3	28,870	7	3
Arrah ditto	2,545	3	3	17,996	15	6
Buxar ditto	1,640	1	9	9,385	1	6
Total Sone Circle	9,063	4	3	56,252	8	3
GRAND TOTAL	29,367	4	9	2,01,188	1	1

Government Transport Service.

CANAL.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.						TOLLAGE, 1898-99.					
	During the month.			To end of the month.			During the month.			To end of the month.		
	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Orissa Circle.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.
High Level ...	1,613	324	6,077 13 0	44,636	2,894	46,345 3 0	5,730	30	4,478 2 3	26,778	2,400	30,260 2 5
Total Orissa Circle ...	1,613	324	6,077 13 0	44,636	2,894	46,345 3 0	5,730	30	4,478 2 3	26,778	2,400	30,260 2 5

Assessed Tollage Receipts.

CANALS.	EARNINGS, 1899-1900.			EARNINGS, 1898-99.		
	During the month.			During the month.		
1	2			4		
	3			5		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Orissa Canals	13,813	10	0	1,00,657	10	1
Midnapore Canal	8,697	2	3	57,176	2	9
Hijili Tidal Canal	3,871	1	3	33,446	15	0
Sone Canals	9,063	4	3	56,252	8	3
Total	35,445	1	9	2,47,533	4	1

CALCUTTA,
The 5th December 1899.

A. H. O. MACCARTHY,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Minor Works and Navigation for the month of October 1899, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.		TOLLAGE, 1898-99.	
	During the month.	To end of the month.	During the month.	To end of the month.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Calcutta * and Eastern Canals: ...	32,875 11 9	1,58,642 4 6	27,987 4 9	1,23,335 9 0
Tolly's Nala ...	7,998 12 9	46,576 4 3	6,550 1 3	30,283 10 0
Total ...	40,874 8 6	2,05,218 8 9	34,537 6 0	1,53,619 3 0
Orissa Coast Canal ...	3,900 11 9	25,403 11 9	5,631 15 9	42,473 3 3
Nadia Rivers ...	12,153 9 6	81,623 6 6	11,032 15 0	63,231 12 2
GRAND TOTAL ...	56,928 13 9	3,12,245 11 0	51,202 4 9	2,59,324 2 5

CALCUTTA,
The 5th December 1899.

A. H. C. MACARTHUR,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

Abstract of Principal Commodities carried over the Eastern Bengal State Railway during the month of September 1899 as compared with the same month of the previous year.

STAPLES.	1899.		1898.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1899.	1898.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Coal and Coke carried for the Public and Foreign Railways.	4,686	13,030	5,688	11,348	17,716	17,316	800	...
Cotton, raw	3	54	9	53	57	92	...	35
Cotton, manufactured—								
Twist and yarn, European	266	...	277	...	266	377	...	11
Ditto, Indian	190	116	196	254	317	450	...	133
Piece-goods, European	4,226	5	3,782	3	4,231	3,785	446	...
Ditto, Indian	14	...	56	...	14	56	...	42
Drugs and Chemicals—								
Intoxicating, other than opium	1	12	4	1	13	5	8	...
Non-intoxicating—								
Cinchona bark	19	...	...	...	19	...	19	...
Others	48	7	46	...	55	46	7	...
Dyes and Tans—								
Indigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Myrabolams	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cutch	19	...	36	...	19	36	...	17
Turmeric	11	214	30	341	325	371	...	166
Alizarine and aniline dyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Al (Morinda Citrifolia)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others	9	...	20	...	9	20	...	11
Grain and pulse—								
Wheat	20	96	46	73	118	119	...	1
Paddy	745	1,885	341	538	2,030	939	1,091	...
Rice	1,867	6,796	2,493	1,733	6,003	4,229	2,434	...
Jowar and bajra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gram and pulse	1,421	10,021	1,053	882	11,442	1,975	9,467	...
Others	52	484	193	34	536	232	304	...
Hides and skins—								
Hides of cattle—								
Dressed or tanned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Raw	38	2,637	21	553	2,006	577	2,118	...
Skins of sheep, &c.—								
Dressed or tanned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Raw	3	48	...	24	51	24	27	...
Horns	10	15	1	4	25	4	20	...
Hemp and other fibres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jute—								
Raw	458	79,323	373	66,050	79,787	68,420	11,358	...
Gunny-bags and cloth	550	470	283	281	1,649	564	435	...
Lac—								
Stick	...	16	...	45	16	45	...	29
Shell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leather, manufactured	50	...	52	...	50	52	...	2
Liquors—								
Ale and beer	23	...	27	...	23	27	...	...
Spirits of all kinds, including country spirits	3	...	4	...	3	4	...	1
Wines	71	...	76	...	71	76	...	5
All other sorts, including toddy and fermented liquor, other than ale and beer.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Metals—								
Copper, unwrought	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brass, ditto	...	12	...	5	...	5	...	...
Copper, wrought	2	77	6	...	14	6	8	...
Brass, do.	89	...	117	77	186	194	...	28
Iron and steel {cast	39	2	31	...	40	31	9	...
unwrought	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
wrought	642	51	642	26	673	668	5	...
Others	224	11	290	11	235	301	...	66
Others	72	15	91	40	87	131	...	44
Oils—								
Kerosine	7,130	70	8,947	63	7,200	9,010	...	1,810
Castor	5	...	11	...	6	11	...	6
Cocconut	97	...	95	...	97	95	2	...
Mustard and rape	117	...	158	...	123	158	...	35
Others	33	...	30	...	38	30	8	...
Oilseeds—								
Linseed	...	518	3	1,193	518	1,195	...	677
Rape and mustard	270	1,224	302	509	1,583	871	632	...
Til or jingili	...	32	...	18	32	18	14	...
Poppy	...	5	...	...	5	...	...	...
Earthnuts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Castor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Opium	...	...	1	95	...	96	...	96
Paper and pasteboard	106	317	217	306	423	533	...	100
Provisions—								
Ghee	80	4	90	1	90	91	...	1
Dried fruits and nuts	15	10	13	13	25	26	...	1
Others	659	299	840	336	928	1,176	...	246
Railway plant and rolling-stock carried for the Public and Foreign Railways								
Locomotives, engines, and tenders and parts thereof	...	10	...	...	10	...	10	...
Carriages and trucks and parts thereof	170	...	...	20	170	20	141	...
Materials—								
Steel rails and fish-bones, sleepers, and keys of steel and cast-iron.	104	...	...	...	104	...	104	...
Other sorts	1,910	...	123	...	1,510	123	1,387	...
Salt	24	59	52	62	34	144	169	...
	4,985	114	4,975	64	5,079	5,039	40	...

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, DECEMBER 6, 1899.

2437

STAPLES.	1899.		1900.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1899.	1900.		
Saltetre, &c.—								
Saltetre	4		2		4	2	2	
Other saline substances								
Silk, raw—								
Foreign								
Indian	10		11		10	11		1
Silk piece-goods—								
Foreign								
Indian								
Muga								
Rodi								
Spices—								
Hotel-nuts	330	218	251	487	538	741		20
Pepper	29		57		29	57		28
Guinea		34		34		34		
Chillies	188	85	27	102	273	129	144	
Cardamoms		35		30	33	30	3	
Others	67	345	112	35	412	137	275	
Lime and lime-stone	605	323	822	876	1,018	1,698		680
Sugar—								
Refined or crystallized, including sugar-candy.	440	3	566	3	449	569		120
Unrefined, viz., molasses and jaggery or gur, and other saccharine produce.	1,748	467	1,086	265	2,153	1,351	802	
Tea—								
Foreign								
Indian		3,624	6	5,146	3,624	5,152		1,528
Timber	150	90	679	45	240	734		494
Tobacco—								
Unmanufactured	55	2,047	94	1,775	2,102	1,869	233	
Manufactured—								
Cigars	8		9	2	8	11		3
Other sorts								
Wool, raw								
Wool, manufactured—								
Carpets and rugs								
Piece-goods, European								
Ditto, Indian	1		3		1	3		2
Other sorts								
All other articles of merchandise	5,872	2,215	4,167	1,568	8,087	5,735	2,352	
Total	40,990	1,25,513	40,347	97,520	1,66,503	1,37,876	28,627	6,627

CALCUTTA, the 28th November 1899.

H. STUART,
Examiner of Accounts.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Statement of goods traffic for the month of July 1899 compared with the corresponding period in 1898.

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	1898.		1899.		Increase.		Decrease.		Explanation of fluctuation by the Traffic Manager.
	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	
I.—Coal and coke carried for the public and Foreign Railways.	1,218	(—) 553	1,753	2,630	534	5,183			Demand for indigo factories.
II.—Cotton, raw	32	173	24	256		84	8		
III.—Cotton manufactured—									
1. Twist and yarn.	6	68	26	176	20	107			
2. Piece-goods	201	2,414	324	2,470	63	56			
3. Piece-goods	599	4,499	599	3,741			80	558	
4. Piece-goods	117	805	103	687			14	208	
IV.—Drugs and Chemicals—									
1. Intoxicating, other than opium.	25	334	24	230			1	34	
2. Non-intoxicating—									
(a) Cinchona bark									
(b) Others	62	491	63	466	1			25	
V.—Dyes and Tans—									
1. Indigo	1	6	2	11	1	5			
2. Myrabolams			1	4	1	4			
3. Cutch	2	11	9	62	7	41			
4. Turmeric	80	402	67	286			23	207	
5. Aniline dyes			3	34	3	34			
6. Others	5	17	12	125	7	108			
IV.—Grain and Pulse—									
1. Wheat	2,172	10,806	5,281	31,633	3,109	20,827			Demand for export.
2. Rice { in the husk	750	1,837	1,089	8,092	339	1,255			
3. Rice { not in the husk	6,040	23,169	6,961	18,440	921		66	4,680	Good crops.
4. Jawar and Bajra	101	464	35	77				387	
5. Gram and pulse	2,015	11,736	5,877	17,456	2,922	5,720	150	769	
6. Muesli	394	1,309	259	55					
7. Other	7,071	27,872	7,032	28,726	861	853			
VII.—Hides and Skins—									
1. Hides of cattle—									
(a) Dressed or tanned			1	4	1	4			
(b) Raw	378	1,867	187	934			191	933	
2. Skins of sheep, &c.—									
(a) Dressed or tanned	4	52	6	56	2	24	18	239	
(b) Raw	174	664	156	781					
VIII.—Horns	1	5	4	21	3	16			
IX.—Jute—									
1. Raw	52	237	20	89			12	146	
2. Gunny bags and cloth	807	4,740	904	4,635	7	195			
X.—Lac—									
1. Stick	20	35	32	57	12	22			
2. Shell	30	131	42	190	12	20			
XI.—Leather, manufactured	7	77	6	56			1	23	
XII.—Liquors—									
1. Beer	9	49	8	38			1	11	
2. Spirits			3	23		23			
3. Wines	17	274	15	152			2	129	
XIII.—Metals—									
1. Copper, unwrought									
2. Brass	6	38	13	88	6	50			
3. Copper, wrought	2	22	2	20				2	
4. Brass	69	337	48	203			21	34	
5. Iron	558	2,141	527	2,010			11	31	
6. Others	111	607	125	761	1	164			
XIV.—Oils—									
1. Kerosine	972	2,823	870	2,659			93	167	
2. Castor	64	321	20	80			43	141	
3. Coconut	11	69	8	45			3	15	
4. Others	10	54	9	55			1	9	
XV.—Oil-seeds—									
1. Linseed	19,335	60,499	7,995	29,674			11,340	39,845	Due to restriction via Mokama ghat and to line being blocked at Buckhara.
2. Rape or Mustard	2,046	9,155	1,477	5,371			669	3,784	
3. Til or Jhajhi	52	151					62	151	
4. Poppy	336	1,392	291	806			45	587	
5. Earthnuts									
6. Castor	403	526	100	612		86	240		
7. Others	4,664	16,906	2,743	13,896			1,921	3,511	
XVI.—Opium			11	296	11	296			
XVII.—Paper and Pasteboard	7	49	9	56	2	8			
XVIII.—Provisions—									
1. Ghco	228	1,345	108	558			130	889	
2. Dried fruits and nuts	3	23	13	177	16	151			
3. Others	650	2,023	780	2,910	130	237			
XIX.—Railway Plant and Rolling Stock carried for the Public and Foreign Railways—									
1. Locomotive engines and tenders, &c.									
2. Carriages and trucks, &c.									
3. Materials—									
(a) Steel rails and fishplates									
(b) Sleepers, &c.			37	193	37	192			
(c) Other sorts									
XX.—Salt	5,232	14,772	4,933	12,700			349	1,973	

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS.	1898.		1899.		Increase.		Decrease.		Explanation of fluctuation by the Traffic Manager.
	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	Tons.	Rs.	
XXI.—Saltpetre, &c.—									
1. Saltpetre	782	2,343	230	465			553	1,878	
2. Other saline substances									
XXII.—Silk, raw—									
1. Foreign									
2. Indian	5	23	1	11			4		
XXIII.—Silk Piece-goods—									
1. Foreign									
2. Indian									
XXIV.—Spices—									
1. Betel-nuts	70	489	92	580	12	91			
2. Pepper	21	192	13	128			8	71	
3. Ginger	14	116	4	21			10	89	
4. Chillies	39	485	57	305			12	180	
5. Cardamoms	5	38	1	3			4	35	
6. Others	117	901	150	854	23			47	
XXV.—Stone and Lime	1,023	2,177	717	1,047			306	1,130	
XXVI.—Sugar—									
1. Refined or crystallised, including sugarcandy.	1,458	8,703	744	3,342			714	5,361	Less demand up-country and heavy rain.
2. Unrefined, viz., molasses and jaggree or gur and other saccharine produce.	1,461	5,319	1,199	4,735			262	884	
XXVII.—Tea—									
1. Foreign									
2. Indian	1	8	1	7				1	
XXVIII.—Timber—									
1. Logs, &c.	168	463	1,025	1,213	1,727	781			Export from Government forests.
2. Poles	99	240	94	104			5	136	
XXIX.—Tobacco—									
1. Unmanufactured	2,989	23,060	2,505	19,936			484	3,124	Stoppage of traffic owing to breaches in the line.
2. Manufactured									
(a) Cigars	1	5					1	5	
(b) Other sorts	9	63	30	121	11	58			
XXX.—Wool, raw	4	26	1	7			3	19	
XXXI.—Wool, manufactured—									
1. Piece-goods { European									
2. } Indian	17	97	8	73			9	24	
3. Shawls									
XXXII.—All other articles of merchandise—									
1. Indigo-seed	66	371	20	118			46	253	
2. Fire-wood	300	408	847	1,273	547	864			
3. Others not specified above.	2,427	9,559	2,446	8,728	19			831	
TOTAL	69,040	2,62,235	62,711	2,34,588	11,422	35,618	17,761	63,265	

A. H. MIDDLETON,
Auditor of Accounts.

GORAKPUR,
The 14th November 1899.

BENGAL-NAGPUR RAILWAY.

Abstract of Principal Commodities carried during the month of September 1899 as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

ARTICLES.	1899.		1898.		Total, 1899.	Total, 1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.				
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
I.—Coal and coke carried for the public and foreign railways.	14,708	61,507	11,801	26,549	64,373	46,070	18,303	...
II.—Cotton, raw	5	490	...	683	485	683	...	198
III.—Cotton, manufactured—								
1. Twist and yarn, European	13	66	9	60	78	69	9	...
2. Ditto, Indian	99	1,129	77	438	1,238	535	693	...
3. Piece-goods, European	230	33	113	32	253	145	108	...
4. Ditto, Indian	74	189	24	141	203	165	37	...
IV.—Drugs and chemicals—								
1. Intoxicating, other than opium.	1	1	1	3	2	3	...	1
2. Non-intoxicating—								
(a) Cinchona bark	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Others	5	14	3	3	19	6	13	...
V.—Dyes and Tans—								
1. Indigo	1	1	3	1	3	3	...	1
2. Myrabolams	117	18	473	54	135	586	...	301
3. Cutch	8	4	1	3	13	3	9	...
4. Turmeric	23	34	38	3	56	38	18	...
5. Alizarine and aniline dyes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Al (morinda citrifolia)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Others	11	45	8	3	46	10	36	...
VI.—Grain and Pulse—								
1. Wheat	3,290	106	1,311	313	3,596	1,523	1,873	...
2. Rice in the husk	35	25	1	1	70	3	68	...
3. Rice not in the husk	6,051	844	4,042	263	6,893	4,406	2,486	...
4. Jowar and bajra	238	208	66	1	446	67	379	...
5. Gram and pulse	4,681	174	1,018	358	4,725	1,403	3,322	...
6. Others	23	112	3	1	136	4	131	...
VII.—Hides and skins—								
1. Hides of cattle—								
(a) Dressed or tanned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Raw	124	230	43	124	483	167	316	...
2. Skins of sheep, &c.—								
(a) Dressed or tanned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Raw	4	15	1	3	19	4	15	...
VIII.—Horns	19	8	8	4	27	12	15	...
IX.—Hemp and other fibres	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
X.—Jute—								
1. Raw	1	...	6	...	1	8	...	7
2. Gunny-bags and cloth	190	49	135	83	229	217	12	...
XI.—Lac—								
1. Stick	70	688	18	333	698	343	349	...
2. Shell	3	163	1	86	167	86	111	...
XII.—Leather, manufactured	10	6	3	1	16	4	12	...
XIII.—Liquors—								
1. Ale and beer	10	40	5	28	50	38	17	...
2. Spirit of all kinds, including country spirit.	11	3	3	3	14	4	10	...
3. Wines	10	3	8	1	18	6	7	...
4. All other sorts, including toddy and fermented liquors, other than ale and beer.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
XIV.—Metal—								
1. Copper, unwrought	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Brass	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Copper, wrought	1	14	1	1	15	2	13	...
4. Brass	9	15	2	9	24	11	13	...
5. Iron and steel—								
(a) Cast	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Unwrought	3	410	...	...	412	...	412	...
(c) Wrought	96	41	...	...	135	...	135	...
(d) Manufactures of iron and steel.	153	42	38	131	174	219	185	...
6. Others	13	23	13	17	35	30	5	...
XV.—Oils—								
1. Kerosene	273	56	321	38	333	404	...	33
2. Castor	7	8	1	3	15	4	11	...
3. Coconut	9	1	4	1	10	5	5	...
4. Mustard and rape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Others	37	3	24	6	39	30	9	...
XVI.—Oil-seeds—								
1. Linseed	308	80	615	18	440	633	...	185
2. Rape and mustard	40	83	22	48	99	64	35	...
3. Til or linjil	178	268	54	169	464	211	253	...
4. Poppy	14	1	7	1	16	8	7	...
5. Karthnuts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Castor	1	23	8	10	23	18	5	...
7. Others	279	284	14	134	603	198	405	...
XVII.—Opium	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
XVIII.—Paper and pasteboard	10	3	21	1	13	28	...	9
XIX.—Provisions—								
1. Ghee	28	83	33	47	111	89	22	...
2. Dried fruits and nuts	16	64	66	23	80	88	...	6
3. Others	123	120	91	33	248	144	104	...

ARTICLES.	1899.		1898.		Total, 1899.	Total, 1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.				
XX.—Railway plant and rolling-stock carried for the public and foreign railways—	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1. Locomotive engines and tenders and parts thereof.	.....	1	19	8	1	13	.....	14
2. Carriages and trucks and parts thereof.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3. Materials—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(a) Steel rails and fish-plates.	35	.....	14	.....	25	14	31	.....
(b) Sleepers and keys of steel and cast-iron.	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1
(c) Other sorts	451	5,703	194	1,663	6,154	1,663	4,293	.....
XXI.—Salt	717	463	733	173	1,145	901	244	.....
XXII.—Saltpetre, &c.—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Saltpetre	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Other saline substances	10	3	3	3	13	5	3	2
XXIII.—Silk, raw—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Foreign	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Indian	3	3	4	1	6	5	1	.....
XXIV.—Silk piece-goods—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Foreign	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Indian	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
XXV.—Spices—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Betel-nuts	75	7	30	4	83	34	48	.....
2. Pepper	2	1	3	1	9	4	5	.....
3. Ginger	2	1	3	3	3	4	.....	1
4. Chillies	13	14	19	1	26	20	6	.....
5. Cardamoms	1	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....
6. Others	125	10	35	7	135	35	100	.....
XXVI.—Stone and lime	400	920	43	1,473	1,329	1,515	.....	185
XXVII.—Sugar—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Refined or crystallized, including sugar-candy.	76	55	40	23	131	53	48	.....
2. Unrefined	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(a) Sugar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(b) Gur, rab, molasses, jag-gery and other crude saccharine produce.	115	35	113	18	140	130	10	.....
XXVIII.—Tea—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Foreign	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Indian	4	20	1	38	33	30	4	.....
XXIX.—Timber	513	82	260	724	900	933	.....	33
XXX.—Tobacco—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Unmanufactured	140	23	32	37	174	110	65	.....
2. Manufactured—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(a) Oikars	1	1	1	1	2	2	.....	.....
(b) Other sorts	8	11	6	5	19	11	8	.....
XXXI.—Wool—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
(a) Raw	1	1	1	1	2	2	.....	.....
(b) Manufactured—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
I.—Carpets and rugs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
II.—Piece-goods, European	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
III.—Ditto, Indian	10	3	3	7	13	10	3	.....
IV.—Other sorts of manu-factures.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
XXXII.—All other articles of merchandise—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Firewood	736	239	146	1	935	147	888	.....
2. Bamboos	63	93	33	25	155	66	87	.....
3. Mowha	626	120	542	97	762	639	113	.....
4. Others	998	413	423	255	1,411	679	732	.....
Total	86,989	63,183	23,034	64,967	103,177	63,021	30,580	1,234
Net increase	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35,058	.....

NAGPUR, the 22nd November 1899.

A. GRANT,
Deputy Auditor.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BIHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 25th November 1899 on 834 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	244,200	1,15,400 0 0	10,99,370 0	2,43,610 0 0	40,240 0 0	3,93,250 0 0	35,500	46,800	82,300
Or per mile of railway ...	293	138 0 0	1,318 0	291 0 0	51 0 0	460 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 20 weeks of half-year ...	4,022,906	18,97,761 0 0	2,17,75,805 0	45,98,881 0 0	3,43,043 0 0	63,41,085 0 0	717,529	877,023	1,594,552
Total for 21 weeks ...	4,267,106	20,13,171 0 0	2,28,74,875 0	46,41,491 0 0	3,83,283 0 0	72,30,935 0 0	753,029	923,823	1,676,852
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	249,244	1,37,037 0 0	10,47,834 0	2,06,498 0 0	54,064 0 0	3,98,709 0 0	36,010	36,845	72,855
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	303	167 0 0	1,272 0	250 0 0	51 0 0	488 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	3,964,737	18,07,939 0 0	2,10,32,751 0	4,266,044 0 0	4,05,338 0 0	64,79,863 0 0	724,461	894,510	1,618,971

* Excluding steamer earnings.
† Audited up to 7th October 1899.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 25th November 1899 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	20,890	9,080 0 0	42,440 0	4,360 0 0	100 0 0	13,440 0 0	2,375	2,064	4,439
Or per mile of railway ...	312	106 0 0	493 0	49 0 0	1 0 0	155 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 20 weeks of half-year ...	4,71,502	1,51,076 0 0	8,41,516 0	79,842 0 0	4,785 0 0	2,35,633 0 0	50,638	34,697	85,335
Total for 21 weeks ...	4,92,392	1,60,156 0 0	8,83,956 0	84,102 0 0	4,885 0 0	2,46,123 0 0	53,033	36,761	89,794
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	20,007	9,782 0 0	72,957 0	7,371 0 0	460 0 0	17,513 0 0	2,430	1,980	4,410
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	344	114 0 0	845 0	85 0 0	5 0 0	204 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	4,68,971	1,51,607 0 0	7,59,335 0	70,412 0 0	4,259 0 0	2,26,278 0 0	50,791	46,363	97,154

* Audited up to 7th October 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 25th November 1899 on 54 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	6,380	1,360 0 0	13,630 0	970 0 0	10 0 0	2,340 0 0	714	210	924
Or per mile of railway ...	118	25 0 0	252 0	18 0 0	...	41 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 20 weeks of half-year ...	75,884	17,222 0 0	1,13,445 0	6,230 0 0	125 0 0	23,637 0 0	13,709	9,609	23,318
Total for 21 weeks ...	82,264	18,582 0 0	1,27,075 0	7,190 0 0	135 0 0	25,977 0 0	14,423	9,819	24,242
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	2,863	671 0 0	10,301 0	410 0 0	3 0 0	1,084 0 0	253	209	462
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	87	30 0 0	319 0	13 0 0	...	20 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	6,258	2,151 0 0	32,952 0	1,407 0 0	3 0 0	3,651 0 0	867	1,951	2,818

* Audited up to 7th October 1899.

BRAHMAPUTRA-SULTANPUR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 25th November 1899 on 24.75 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,650	520 0 0	8,030 0	430 0 0	40 0 0	990 0 0	180	600	780
per mile of railway ...	67	21 0 0	324 0	17 0 0	2 0 0	40 0 0			
previous 20 weeks of half-year ...	30,628	9,070 0 0	1,54,969 0	8,617 0 0	861 0 0	18,548 0 0	4,190	12,853	17,033
Total for 21 weeks ...	32,278	9,590 0 0	1,62,999 0	9,047 0 0	901 0 0	19,538 0 0	4,360	13,453	17,813
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Audited up to 7th October 1899.

COOCH BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 25th November 1899 on 53.18 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	2,076	1,510 0 0	11,600 0	2,070 0 0	50 0 0	3,330 0 0	530	750	1,080
per mile of railway ...	90	57 0 0	350 0	62 0 0	...	99 0 0			
previous 20 weeks of half-year ...	41,033	14,594 0 0	1,73,256 0	15,841 0 0	2,176 0 0	32,011 0 0	6,800	16,767	23,567
Total for 21 weeks ...	44,903	15,804 0 0	1,84,856 0	17,911 0 0	2,226 0 0	35,941 0 0	7,130	17,507	24,637
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,695	635 0 0	6,631 0	1,535 0 0	173 0 0	2,376 0 0	152	600	752
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	77	30 0 0	300 0	69 0 0	1 0 0	100 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	26,015	9,318 0 0	1,38,496 0	14,591 0 0	2,284 0 0	26,193 0 0	3,295	11,205	14,501

* Excluding coaching ferry.

† Audited up to 7th October 1899.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 18th November 1899 on 139 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	34,288	16,443 0 0	78,171 0	8,208 0 0	212 0 0	24,903 0 0	4,404	4,825	9,229
per mile of railway ...	284	119 0 0	593 0	59 0 0	2 0 0	187 0 0	...	...	...
previous 19 weeks of half-year ...	606,840	2,87,852 0 0	17,16,100 0	1,88,700 0 0	17,397 0 0	4,44,399 0 0	87,331	76,136	163,467
Total for 20 weeks ...	641,128	2,54,295 0 0	17,94,271 0	1,96,908 0 0	17,609 0 0	4,68,908 0 0	91,735	80,961	172,696
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	33,034	15,767 0 0	75,208 0	7,380 0 0	45 0 0	21,192 0 0	4,168	2,704	6,846
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	271	110 0 0	609 0	59 0 0	1 0 0	170 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	646,471	2,33,441 0 0	15,69,834 0	1,18,168 0 0	6,400 0 0	3,88,009 0 0	82,826	67,778	150,604

* Audited up to 7th October 1899.

† Coaching traffic calculated on 130 miles only.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 25th November 1899 on 1,085 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 1,085 miles open ...	152,180	Rs. (a) 65,030	Mds. 5,92,070	Rs. (b) 78,710	Rs. 18,000	Rs. (b) 1,62,740	27,001	(c) 28,850	55,851
Or per mile of railway ...	140'26	59'94	545'69	73'46	16'59	149'89	.....	.....	.....
For previous 20 weeks of half-year (d) ...	2,605,236	9,84,784	1,13,00,966	12,77,161	2,77,035	25,39,590	521,856	542,154	1,064,010
Total for 21 weeks ...	2,757,416	10,40,814	1,18,93,036	13,56,871	2,95,035	27,02,320	548,857	570,504	1,119,361
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 926 miles open ...	151,362	68,304	3,76,324	51,011	17,519	1,36,834	24,521	(e) 19,504	44,115
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	163'63	73'84	407'40	55'15	18'94	147'93	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,288,789	8,63,002	86,01,851	10,50,418	2,63,413	21,66,833	459,057	446,241	905,298

(a) The decrease is due to stoppage of mail at Sonapur owing to plague.

(b) Increase is due to increased mileage.

(c) Includes 3,148 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(d) " audited figures up to week ending 14th October 1899.

(e) " 1,230 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

SEGOWLIE-BAKSAUL BRANCH RAILWAY.

(WORKED BY THE B. & N.-W. RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 25th November 1899 on 18 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 18 miles open ...	No. 866	Rs. 447	Mds. 16,191	Rs. 654	Rs. 8	Rs. 1,109	145	107	252
Or per mile of railway ...	48'11	24'83	899'50	36'33	0'45	61'61	.....	.....	.....
For previous 40 weeks of half-year ...	2,514	740	40,001	1,340	28	2,108	648	468	1,116
Total for 41 weeks ...	3,380	1,187	62,192	1,994	36	3,217	793	575	1,368
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 18 miles open ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 377 miles open for all descriptions of Traffic and an additional 11 miles for goods and parcels traffic only.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	19,843	Rs. A. P. 13,524 0 0	Mds. 2,15,860 0	Rs. A. P. 13,454 0 0	Rs. A. P. 327 0 0	Rs. A. P. 27,805 0 0	3,123	6,965	10,088
Or per mile of railway ...	52'63	35'87	569'94	34'69	0'84	71'39	8'28	17'95	26'23
For previous 15 weeks of half-year (a) ...	326,224	1,94,570 0 0	36,44,034 0	1,97,940 0 0	10,278 0 0	4,02,803 0 0	50,502	115,490	165,992
Total for 16 weeks ...	346,067	2,08,100 0 0	38,60,794 0	2,11,403 0 0	10,605 0 0	4,30,108 0 0	53,625	122,455	176,080
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	19,148	12,692 0 0	2,07,770 0	12,323 0 0	255 0 0	25,079 0 0	2,703	7,150	9,853
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	67'42	44'84	548'69	41'75	0'87	66'96	7'23	24'51	31'74
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	300,244	1,63,527 0 0	40,44,304 0	1,89,073 0 0	9,875 0 0	3,56,475 0 0	44,511	83,593	128,104

(a) Includes audited figures for week ending 9th September 1899.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 21ST OCTOBER 1899.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 22ND OCTOBER 1898.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1899 TO 21ST OCTOBER 1899.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1898 TO 22ND OCTOBER 1898.			Total increase in 1899.	Total decrease in 1899.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked. pr week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked. pr week.	Rs.	.....
285	Rs. 27,305	Rs. 71'39	293	Rs. 25,079	Rs. 85'96	368	Rs. 6,14,091	.....	293	Rs. 6,35,401	.....	Rs. 1,18,000	.....

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 28th October 1899 on 377 miles open for all descriptions of Traffic and 11 miles for goods and parcels traffic only.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchan- dise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	24,294	15,576 0 0	2,11,078 0	14,102 0 0	1,727 0 0	31,205 0 0	3,000	7,135	10,225
Or per mile of railway ...	64'44	40'79	544'02	30'35	4'45	81'69	8'20	18'39	26'59
Per previous 16 weeks of half- year (a) ...	348,285	2,07,948 0 0	38,71,353 0	2,11,393 0 0	10,552 0 0	4,29,923 0 0	53,647	122,117	175,764
Total for 17 weeks ...	372,579	2,23,324 0 0	40,82,331 0	2,25,495 0 0	12,309 0 0	4,61,128 0 0	56,737	129,252	185,989
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	17,514	11,073 0 0	3,62,487 0	12,708 0 0	1,287 0 0	25,668 0 0	2,508	6,831	9,439
Per mile of railway correspond- ing week of previous year ...	61'67	41'10	805'86	43'37	4'39	88'96	9'15	23'31	32'46
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	317,758	1,75,261 0 0	43,06,691 0	1,95,780 0 0	11,162 0 0	3,82,143 0 0	47,109	90,424	1,37,533

(a) Includes audited figures for week ending 16th September 1899.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 23RD OCTOBER 1899.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 23RD OCTOBER 1898.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1899 TO 23RD OCTOBER 1899.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1898 TO 23RD OCTOBER 1898.			Total increase in 1899.	Total decrease in 1899.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked pr week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked pr week.	Rs.	.....
368	Rs. 31,205	Rs. 81'69	293	Rs. 25,068	Rs. 85'86	368	Rs. 8,45,111	...	293	Rs. 7,21,069	...	Rs. 1,24,042	.....

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 377 miles open for all descriptions of traffic and an additional 11 miles for goods and parcels traffic.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchan- dise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	23,404	15,191 0 0	2,11,709 0	15,238 0 0	427 0 0	30,836 0 0	2,759	7,966	10,725
Or per mile of railway ...	63'32	40'29	545'04	30'27	1'10	80'60	7'33	20'53	27'85
Per previous 17 weeks of half- year ...	373,030	2,24,008 0 0	40,84,047 0	2,25,694 0 0	12,229 0 0	4,61,824 0 0	56,763	129,891	186,654
Total for 18 weeks ...	396,524	2,39,199 0 0	42,95,756 0	2,40,842 0 0	12,649 0 0	4,92,690 0 0	59,521	137,857	197,378
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	22,691	14,044 0 0	2,20,524 0	12,244 0 0	328 0 0	26,616 0 0	2,668	7,482	10,130
Or per mile of railway correspond- ing week of previous year ...	70'35	49'45	885'75	41'79	1'12	92'36	9'39	23'47	34'66
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	340,349	1,99,244 0 0	45,66,215 0	2,08,024 0 0	11,491 0 0	4,08,759 0 0	49,777	97,886	147,663

* Includes audited figures for week ending 23rd September 1899 for Chittagong Section only.